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AN ANCIENT CISTERN IN THE GROUNDS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM

WHILE planting trees in the grounds of Government House, Jerusalem, the labourers discovered an ancient cistern, containing an XVIIIth-Dynasty steatite scarab¹ with a bronze bezel ring, and a bronze dagger. The Department of Antiquities was notified of the discovery by His Excellency the High Commissioner, and the cistern was cleared subsequently.

The cistern was cut in soft limestone, which showed marks of a tool (Pl. LXXVI, 6), 1.5 m. in diameter, and was shaped like a spinning-top (see plan and sections, Fig. 1). There were two openings into the cistern, one in the roof, and the other at the north side. The latter was found blocked with a large stone (Pl. LXXVI, 2). A number of steps were cut in the rock outside the entrance (Pl. LXXVI, 3) and were continued inside, to the bottom of the cistern, with flint slabs, flanked by upright stones on both sides (Pl. LXXVI, 1 and 4). At a subsequent period, the lower portion of the cistern (see Section) was filled up, and a pavement was laid (Pl. LXXVI, 5).

Near the middle of the cistern, on the side of the north entrance, there was a large stone on a slightly higher level than the pavement. Around this stone (marked *X* on plan) a number of pots were grouped, namely, three bowls on the north (Pl. LXXVII, 2-7, arranged as in Pl. LXXVII, 1), two bowls on the west (Pl. LXXVIII, 12, 13, arranged as in Pl. LXXVIII, 11), and a broken jar on the south.

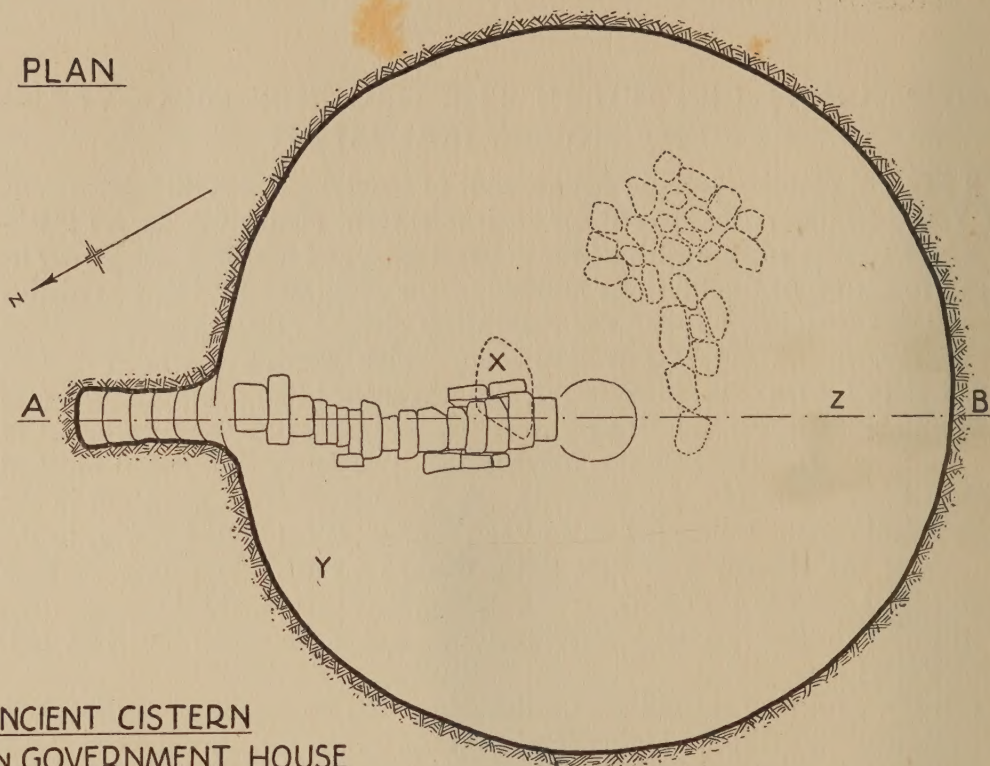
At point *Y* on the plan, a further group of pottery was discovered (Pl. LXXVIII, 1, 2, 5-8, arranged as in Pl. LXXVIII, 3), while the scarab and dagger (Pl. LXXVIII, 9 and 10) were reported to have been found at point *Z*, above the level of the pavement. Bones were also found scattered in different parts of the cistern.²

The pottery, which includes a Cypriote 'bilbil', a ring base juglet, two jugs, two lamps, four bowls, and two bowls on stands, one painted (Pl. LXXVII, 3) belongs to the second part of the Late Bronze Age, a date which agrees with the XVIIIth-Dynasty scarab. However, small potsherds, ranging from the Iron Age to the Byzantine period, were found below the level of the pave-

¹ Mr. A. Rowe makes the following note about the scarab: 'In the centre is a clump of papyrus plants, emblematic of lower Egypt. Above and below is $\neg$ *nb* (*neb*) "lord"; the upper sign is inverted. The whole means "The Lord of the Delta".'

² These bones were sent for examination to the Deputy Director of Medical Services, who kindly supplied the following note: '... I am of opinion that the bones are not human. This opinion is corroborated by my colleagues.'

PLAN



ANCIENT CISTERN
ON GOVERNMENT HOUSE
GROUND, JERUSALEM.

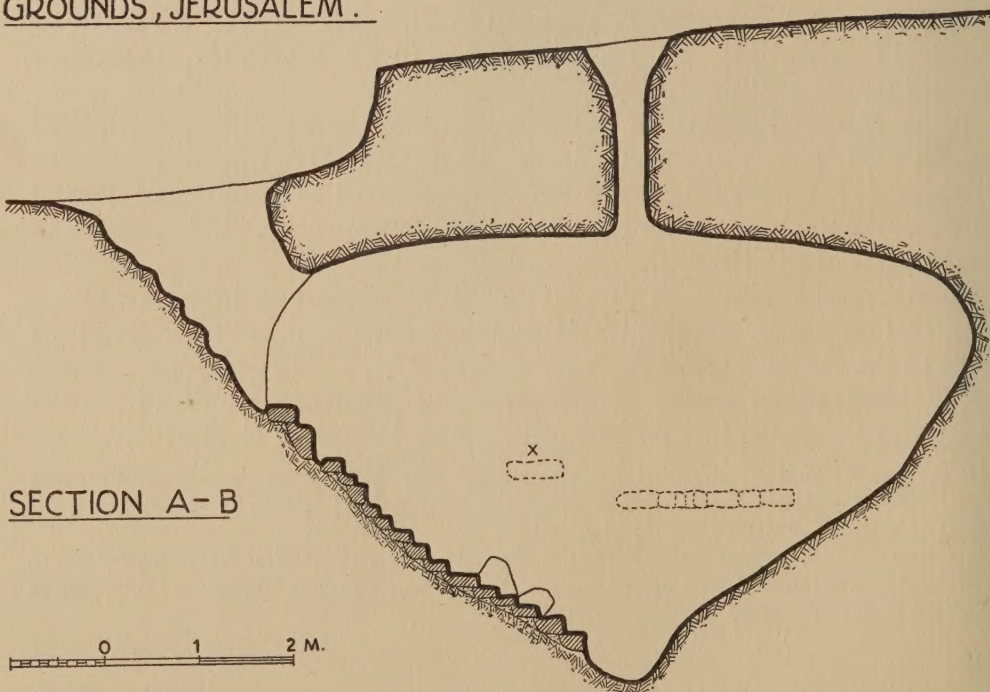
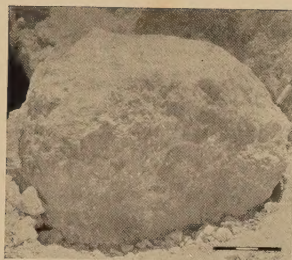


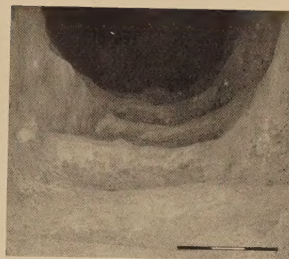
FIG. 1.



I



2



3



4

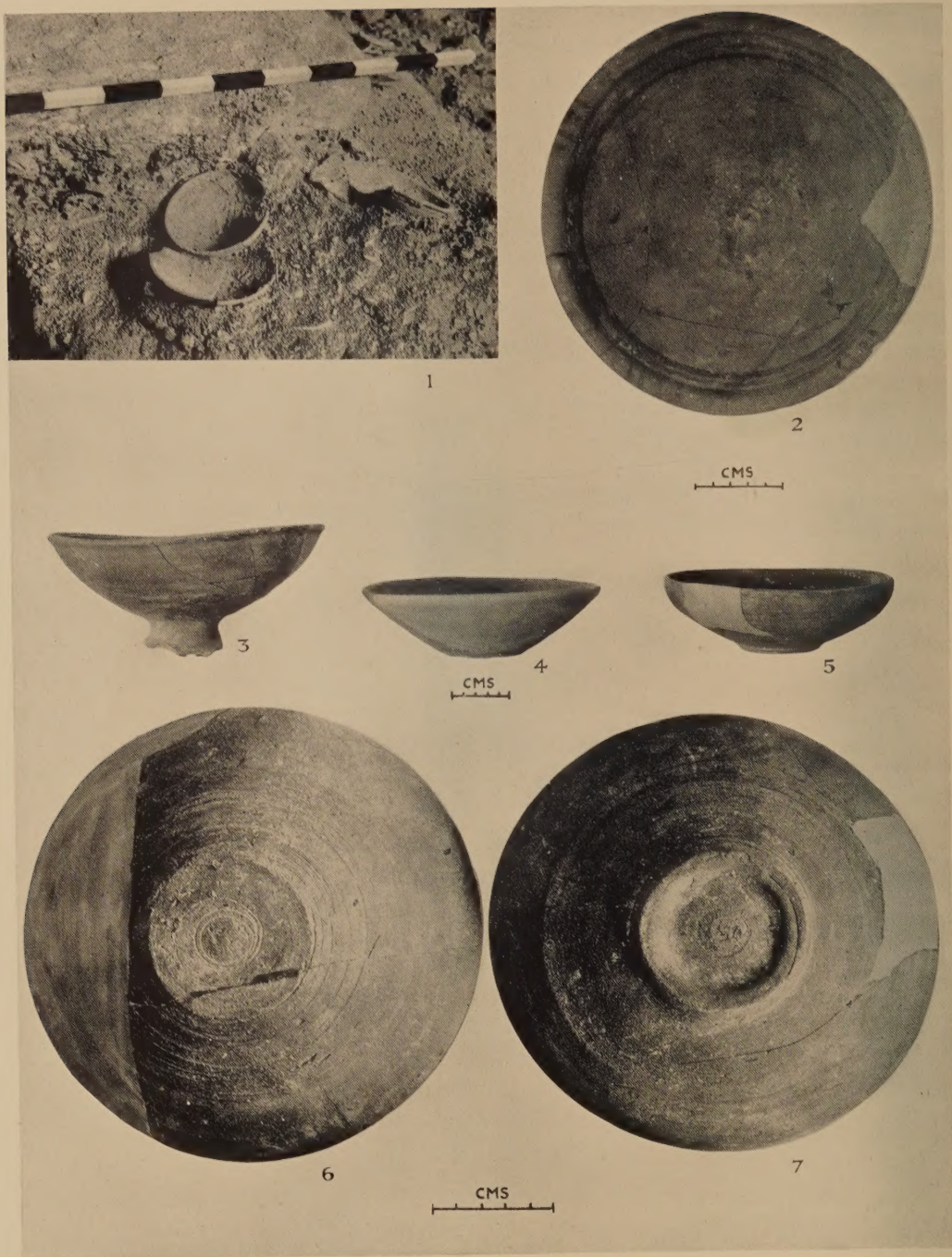


5



6

CISTERN IN THE GROUNDS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM



CISTERN IN THE GROUNDS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM



CISTERN IN THE GROUNDS OF GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM

CISTERN NEAR GOVERNMENT HOUSE, JERUSALEM

ment.¹ This fact is rather difficult to explain as the Late Bronze Age deposits do not seem to have been disturbed. One possible explanation is that these potsherds fell through the hole in the roof, and penetrated the fairly wide gaps between the paving-stones.

D. C. BARAMKI.

¹ The pavement was preserved only in the south-west quarter of the cistern. Some of these intrusive potsherds were found below the pavement itself as well as below its level where it did not exist.

AN ANCIENT TOMB CHAMBER AT WA'R ABU EŞ ŞAFA NEAR JERUSALEM

IN the course of quarrying at Wa'r Abu eş Şafa (an extensive rocky area, 2 km. west of Jerusalem) during May 1934, an ancient tomb chamber was discovered and reported to the Department of Antiquities.

The tomb was cut in the rock, and consisted of a roughly squared chamber, with an entrance on the east side, which was found blocked by a stone door, and a rectangular depression in front of it, to facilitate the introduction of coffins. Kokim radiated from the other three sides of the chamber, and a niche, which contained bones, was cut in the north wall (see plan and sections, Pl. LXXIX, 2).

The chamber contained five ossuaries numbered 2-6 on Pl. LXXIX, 1. No. 2 is decorated with a colonnaded structure; No. 5 is decorated with the usual rosette pattern while the others are all plain. Some of the ossuaries had been emptied on the floor of the cave, while the others showed traces of having been thoroughly searched. Human bones were found scattered on the floor and in the depression, but they were very disturbed and did not include any intact skeletons. The objects found in this chamber included six whole and fifteen broken glass tear bottles of the so-called 'candlestick' type, two Roman pottery lamps¹ (which were found at the south-west corner of the chamber), and a number of spherical bluish paste² and multiple cylindrical white glass beads (Pl. LXXX, 5). Iron nails were also found.

Ossuary No. 1, decorated with rosettes and containing bones, was found in Kok A (Pl. LXXIX, 1). Practically all the bones in the Kok had been removed. In addition there were four tear bottles and a quantity of iron nails of different sizes.

Kok B contained one broken and five whole tear bottles of the 'candlestick' type, two iron nails, and some bones.

Kok C contained sixteen whole and twenty-three broken tear bottles of different sizes. In addition there was a small lachrimatory (Pl. LXXX, 10), a blue paste bead,² four white glass beads,³ and a number of iron nails.

Kok D contained six whole and nine broken glass tear-bottles, three whole and several broken pottery lachrymatories (Pl. LXXX, 3, 4, and 11),⁴ a number of paste and glass beads, and a quantity of bones, in addition to

¹ Of these one is similar to that illustrated on *QDAP*, Vol. I, Pl. VI, and the other to that illustrated in Fig. 9 of E. L. Sukenik: 'Jewish tomb-cave on the slopes of Mount Scopus' (in *Qābeş, JPES*, 1934, p. 72).

² Cf. *QDAP*, Vol. I, Pl. IV, 10.

³ Cf. Pl. LXXX, 5.

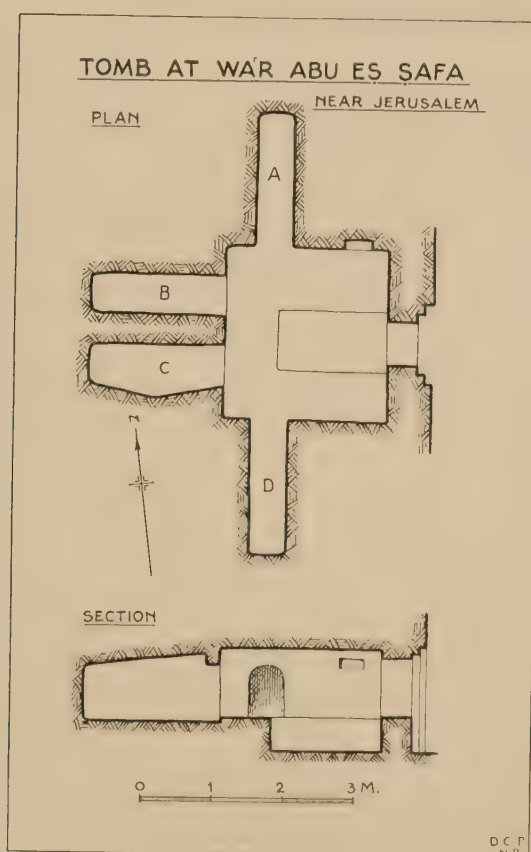
⁴ Cf. E. L. Sukenik, *loc. cit.* Fig. 8, p. 70.



6 7 5 4



2 3





AN ANCIENT TOMB CHAMBER AT WA'R ABU EŞ ŞAFA

TOMB CHAMBER AT WA'R ABU EŞ ŞAFA

Ossuary No. 7 (Pl. LXXIX, 1) which was found lying on its side inside the entrance of the tomb.

A representative selection of the different shapes of tear bottles found in the chamber and the Kokim is illustrated in Pl. LXXX.

The presence of nails in the chamber and Kokim is of interest as they indicate that some of the burials were made in wooden coffins, the wood of which has since rotted.

From the glass and pottery the burials can be dated to the first century B.C. or the first century A.D.

D. C. BARAMKI.

SHAFT TOMBS ON THE NABLUS ROAD, JERUSALEM

IN May 1934 a group of seventeen rock-cut tombs, of Roman date, was brought to light during the reconstruction of Saladin Road at its junction with the main road from Jerusalem to Nablus. The tombs lay immediately south and south-west of the 'Tombs of the Kings' and formed part of a cemetery that is known to extend southwards into and well beyond the area now occupied by St. George's Cathedral and Close.

The tombs conformed to one or other of the four distinct types shown in Fig. 1. The simplest, *A*, contains a single grave covered by four to six stone slabs, which rest on a narrow projecting ledge at the lower end of a vertical shaft common to all types. In *B* two graves are vertically superimposed, the cover-stones of the lower forming the floor of the upper. In *C* and *D* the shaft opens out at the bottom into a chamber containing three or more graves. In some cases (*C*) the chamber is sealed by a set of cover-stones blocking the lower end of the shaft, in others (*D*) the shaft is open but individual graves are closed with their own cover-slabs.

Nearly all the graves contained two or more burials, disposed without consistent orientation. About half the tombs discovered had been disturbed, one or more of the cover-stones having been removed. In the remainder the cover-stones were in position.

The following list shows the type, contents and condition of each of the tombs excavated:

Type	Tomb	Grave	Burials	Contents	Condition
A	1	..	Uncertain	Nil	Intact
A	2	..	Two; skulls W.	Coin of 3rd cent. A.D. in shaft above cover-stones	
B	3	a	Two; skulls NE.	Nil	Intact
		b	Two; skulls NE.	Nil	Intact
A	4	..	Four; skulls NE.	Two glass bottles and fragments (Pls. LXXXI, 1, and LXXXII, 4) Two pairs of gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 2) A bronze mirror (Pl. LXXXIII, 11) A basalt bowl (Pl. LXXXII, 8) A basalt rubber or polisher (Pl. LXXXII, 5) Miscellaneous beads (Pl. LXXXI, 3) and part of a blackened ivory pendant in the form of a human head, too fragmentary for reproduction	Intact
A	5	..	Two; skulls W. One; skull E.	Two gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 4)	Intact

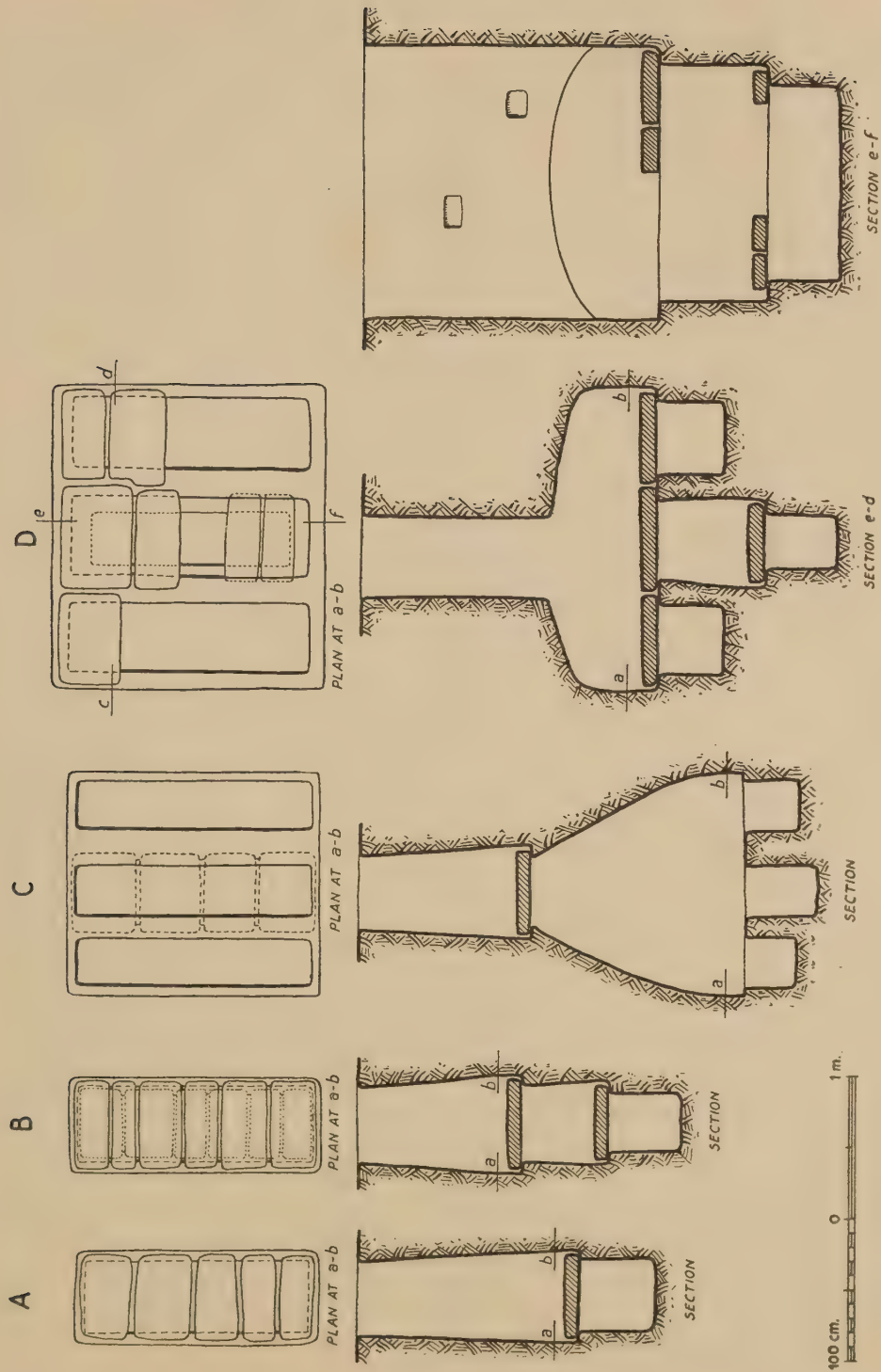


FIG. 1.

R. W. HAMILTON, S. A. S. HUSSEINI

<i>Type</i>	<i>Tomb</i>	<i>Grave</i>	<i>Burials</i>	<i>Contents</i>	<i>Condition</i>
A	6	..	Four burials (a) above, two skulls W. and one infant skull E.	A bone handle carved to represent a female figure (Pl. LXXXII, 3). This was lying between the thigh bones of the uppermost skeleton A pair of gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 5 and Pl. LXXXII, 2). The ear-rings consist of an openwork circular frame enclosing a female head cut in milky quartz (?). Below the frame is an ornate horizontal bar fitted with three rings from which are suspended three double pendants. Each pendant consists of a small blue glass disc in a gold setting surmounting a pearl or (in the centre) a glass bead. A long hook is attached to the back of the frame, its lower end forming the ring that carries the central pendant	Intact
			(b) below, one skull E.	One pair of gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 10) One bronze bell, with fragment of cloth adhering (Pl. LXXXI, 8) Two identical glass beads (Pl. LXXXI, 9)	Intact
A	7	..	Uncertain	Nil	Intact
D	8	a	Uncertain	A confused heap of bones was found above the cover-stones One broken pottery jug (Pl. LXXXII, 7)	Disturbed
		b	Uncertain	Nil	Disturbed
		c	Uncertain	Two gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 6)	Disturbed
		d	Uncertain	Nil	Disturbed
A	9	..	Uncertain	Fragments of a pot (Pl. LXXXII, 6) A bronze coin, illegible but perhaps Herodian	Disturbed
C	10	a	Two; skulls at opposite ends	Four gold ear-rings (Pl. LXXXI, 11) Two miniature glass jugs (Pl. LXXXI, 12) Fragment of glass dolphin bead (Pl. LXXXI, 13) Cylindrical glass chevron bead (Pl. LXXXI, 14) Triangular-eyed glass bead (Pl. LXXXI, 15) Two glass faceted beads (Pl. LXXXI, 16) Oblate circular glass bead (Pl. LXXXI, 17) A fragment of wood with remains of iron nails	Intact
		b	One; skull S.	Bronze bell (Pl. LXXXI, 18) glass eye-bead (Pl. LXXXI, 19) Fragments of a glass bottle and a number of large iron nails and wood fragments	Intact

SHAFT TOMBS ON THE NABLUS ROAD, JERUSALEM

Type	Tomb	Grave	Burials	Contents	Condition
C	10	c	Two; skulls N. Traces of a third burial below	Iron nails and fragments of wood Three gold head bands (Pl. LXXXII, 1)	Intact
D	11	a	Uncertain	3 lozenge-shaped glass ring-bezels (?) (Pl. LXXXI, 20) 4 small hexagonal prismatic glass beads (Pl. LXXXI, 21) 1 small bronze coin (unidentifiable) 8 iron studs or nail heads, with decayed wood adhering, and a few glass bottle frag- ments	Disturbed
		b	Uncertain	9 hexagonal prismatic glass beads and an oval glass ring-bezel (Pl. LXXXI, 22) Fragment of bronze cosmetic pin	Disturbed
		c	Uncertain	1 bone needle (Pl. LXXXI, 25) 1 whorl-shaped steatite bead (Pl. LXXXI, 23)	Disturbed
..	12		Uncertain	The shaft of this tomb broke into Tomb 11 and formed an extra grave alongside grave (c) of that tomb. It contained a a fragment of a bone pin (Pl. LXXXI, 24) and a hexagonal prismatic bead of the type found in 11 (a) and (b)	Disturbed

The remaining tombs, 13 to 17, had been badly disturbed and were therefore covered up without excavation.

In February 1933 a group of tombs, containing four shaft tombs similar to those just described and one chamber tomb with sunk graves in the floor and sides of the chamber, was discovered beside the Nablus Road, about 300 m. south of the Saladin Road. Among the contents of these tombs were the lamps shown on Plate LXXXIII. Of these numbers 1, 2 and 3 with the gold ear-ring number 7 on Plate LXXXI came from a shaft tomb of type C. The remainder were found in the chamber tomb. Although they include at least three distinct types of lamp, all types were found associated together in individual graves, 4, 5 and 6 forming a group of this kind as well as 7, 8 and 9. Numbers 5 and 10 are inscribed with the common formula $\phi\Omega\varsigma\ \chi\Upsilon\ \phi\epsilon\Nu\ \pi\alpha\varsigma\iota$, followed by unintelligible characters.¹

All the lamps are of well-known types. Numbers 1, 3, and 8 are characterized by having a sunk centre and no handle. They have been found at

¹ A drawing of a lamp nearly identical in form with 10 is reproduced in the *P. E. F. Annual* of 1923-5, p. 195, Fig. 209.

Ophel in stratified positions in contexts which the excavators date to the third century A.D.¹

Numbers 2, 4, 6, and 12 have rudimentary handles, wider filling holes, and ridged rims. They belong to a class of lamp also found at Ophel,² but at higher levels than the former type. The remainder, of the so-called 'candlestick' class, are still later in date, but how much so is uncertain. Lamps of this kind are commonly assigned to the sixth century, but there is no proof that they were not in use considerably earlier. The case for an earlier dating has been put forward, in connexion with an apparently undisturbed tomb group of the late fourth century found at el Bassa, by J. H. Iliffe in an earlier volume of this *Quarterly* (*QDAP*, Vol. III, pp. 81 ff.). With his figure 12, especially, may be compared number 7 of the present group, Plate LXXXIII.

Not much precision is possible in dating the other objects, ear-rings, beads &c., that accompanied the burials. The third century seems to represent the mean date and it is unlikely that any of the objects are much earlier than the second century A.D. A hooked ear-ring with pendants, more or less similar to number 2 on Pl. LXXXII (on Pl. LXXXI, number 5), but with a polygonal bead in place of the carved head, is illustrated in the British Museum *Catalogue of Jewellery*, 2665, and is dated to the third century. The type is apparently widespread, extending from the west through Cyprus to Syria³. The lamps seem to range from the early third to the fifth century. The coin found in the shaft of tomb 2 cannot be exactly identified but it belongs to the third century and can be accepted as indicating a period during which the cemetery was in active use.

R. W. HAMILTON.
S. A. S. HUSSEINI.

¹ Cf. *P.E.F. Annual* 1927, Pl. XVII, 5-9, &c., and p. 90.

² *Ibid.*, Pl. XVII, 18 and 19, &c.

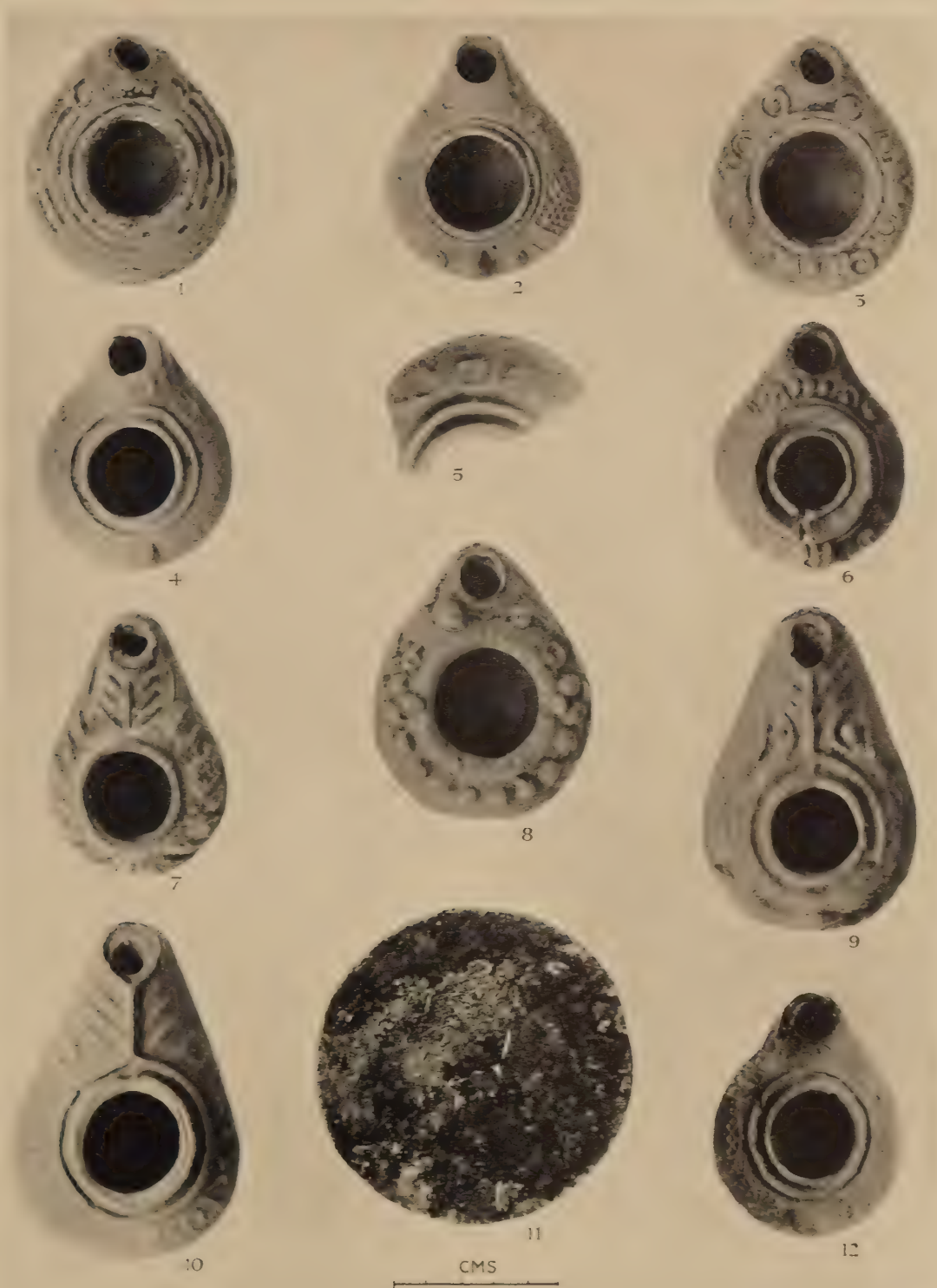
³ Cf. especially in the Palestine Museum numbers J 838 and 839 of unknown provenance and a pair of ear-rings from a third-century cemetery at Tell el Ash'ari (Hauran), exhibited in the Musée National Syrien at Damascus and illustrated on Pl. II, fig. 1, of the guide to the Museum, published in 1931.



SHAFT TOMBS ON THE NABLUS ROAD, JERUSALEM



SHAFT TOMBS ON THE NABLUS ROAD, JERUSALEM



SHAFT TOMBS ON THE NABLUS ROAD, JERUSALEM

A FOURTH-CENTURY A.D. TOMB AT BEIT FAJJĀR

THIS tomb was cleared in July 1934. The discovery was brought to the notice of the Department while building foundations were being dug by Ḥumaid 'Ubaid-Allah on a rock ridge known as Ṭōr Abu Ruwāq, west of Beit Fajjār.

The tomb (Fig. 1) consisted of one chamber. It was approached by a vertical

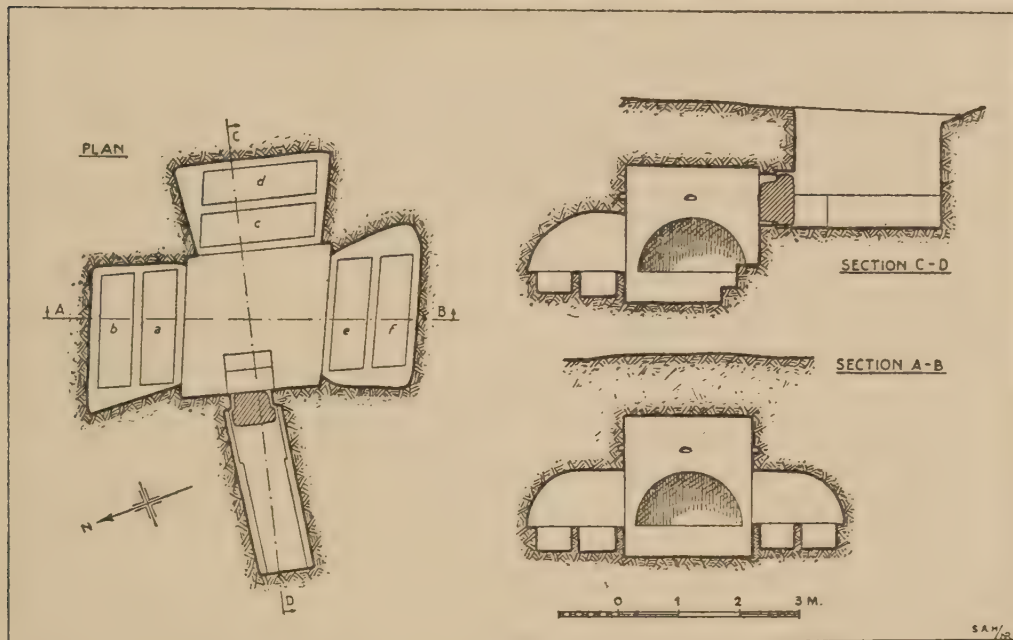


FIG. 1.

rectangular shaft 1.90 m. deep. The sides of the shaft had ledges at a depth of 1.40 m.; these were not made to receive covering stones, but possibly to provide an easy descent into the shaft. The ledges were recessed near the entrance to the chamber to enable free movement of the door-slab that tightly closed the entrance. The entrance with an arched top was cut low in the east end of the shaft (Pl. LXXXIV, 2). The western end of the shaft at its upper edge had a bevelled incline with a vertical depth of 15 cm. It appears that the bodies were slid down into the shaft at this end for burial. The blocking of the entrance was well done, as it kept the inside of the chamber almost free from earth infiltration. The floor of the chamber was sunk below the door-sill and was reached by two steps (Pl. LXXXIV, 1). The graves were excavated in the floor under arcosolia. They were six in number, two in each

of the inner walls. Above each of the arches were niches cut into the walls; the one in the north side contained two oil lamps (Pl. LXXXIV, 4).

The tomb appears intact. Though the bodies had disintegrated and crumbled to dust when touched, yet they retained the outlines of human forms. The interments were covered with a layer of lime deposit. Each grave contained more than one burial, with the exception of Grave (f). No attention had been paid to orientation, the feet of one skeleton and the head of another being side by side.

The contents of the tombs and their positions are as follows (cf. plan):

Grave (a). (Pl. LXXXV, 1, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7.) Glass bottles found almost in the middle of the grave (Pl. LXXXV, 2). A bronze kuhl spatula was found plunged into one of the sides of a double glass kuhl tube. An iron bracelet 50 cm. from the east end of the grave (Pl. LXXXVI, 1, No. 5).

Grave (b). A small glass bottle 40 cm. from the east end of the grave (Pl. LXXXV, 1, No. 5).

Grave (c). A small glass bottle 45 cm. from the south end of the grave (Pl. LXXXV, 1, No. 8). Oil lamp No. 14, 50 cm. from the north end of the grave, and near its west side; much worn and indistinct (not illustrated). Two large bronze necklaces 30 cm. from south end and touching west side of the grave (Pl. LXXXVI, 1, Nos. 4, 6). One small bronze bracelet 50 cm. from south end and touching west side of the grave (Pl. LXXXVI, 1, No. 8).

Grave (d). No deposits.

Grave (e). No deposits.

Grave (f). No deposits.

LAMPS (Pl. LXXXVI, 2)

Nos. 3, 4, 5, 6, were placed in a row on the ledge common to Graves (a) and (b), 30-40 cm. from the east end of the graves (v. Fig 2, Pl. LXXXV).

No. 2, on ledge at north end of Grave (c), 40 cm. from north end of the grave (Pl. LXXXIV, 3).

No. 1, was in a ribbed pottery fragment containing ashes, and placed at east end of Grave (a), on ledge near springing of arch (Pl. LXXXIV, 3).

No. 8, on ledge at east end of Grave (e), near springing of arch.

No. 9, on floor, north side of chamber.

No. 10, south-east corner of chamber, was found on floor among fragments of human bones.

A FOURTH-CENTURY A.D. TOMB, BEIT FAJJĀR

Nos. 11, 12, were found in a niche above arch of the north arcosolium.

No. 13, found on ledge at south end of Grave (c).

No. 7, not complete, from sieve.

The following objects were recovered from the sieve (Pl. LXXXVI, 1).

Nos. 1, 3. Bronze bracelets.

No. 2. A small bronze box.

No. 7. A bronze loop.

No. 9. An amber amulet.

No. 10. A small bronze ring.

S. A. S. HUSSEINI.

NOTE ON THE LAMPS FROM TOMB AT BEIT FAJJĀR

A DATE somewhere in the first third of the fourth century A.D. seems most probable for the group of lamps found in this tomb. The group is intact, many of the lamps having been found in position on the edges of the loculi, as shown by the photographs in the description of the excavation. It is unfortunate that the tomb yielded no coins, such as might have given precision to its dating, but it is possible by analogies to place it as above, i.e. approximately in the reign of Constantine the Great.

The style of the present lamps is in many respects similar to that of those from Tomb 99 at Gezer;¹ e.g. our Nos. 6, 8, and 13 are of the same type as Gezer, Pl. XCII, Nos. 9, 11, 12, 16, &c. (square nozzle); our No. 11 resembles Gezer, Pl. XCIII, Nos. 9 and 11 (radial stroke decoration); our No. 4 resembles Gezer, Pl. XCIII, No. 8, &c.

Now the Gezer tomb is approximately of the reign of Constantine, having yielded two legible coins of that Emperor.² Both are evidently somewhat earlier than the group from the tomb at el Bassa,³ which was dated to c. A.D. 396 by the present writer. The outgoing square nozzle type, represented at el Bassa by a single example,⁴ occurs at least a dozen times in the Gezer tomb, side by side with somewhat fewer of the type with radial stroke decoration. In the Beit Fajjār tomb there are seven examples of the square nozzle and the earlier rounded types, and five or six of the type with radial strokes. Clearly the period of the present tomb as of the Gezer one is that at which the square nozzle and rounded types were still in the ascendant, but gradually giving place to the type with radial lines and a pear-shaped outline, which often bears inscriptions in Greek, or imitations of such. A similar conclusion is to

¹ Cf. Macalister, *Gezer*, Vol. III, Pls. XCII–XCIV; Vol. I, pp. 338–9.

² Macalister, *op. cit.*, Vol. I, p. 339.

³ *QDAP*, Vol. III, pp. 81 seqq.

⁴ *QDAP*, III, p. 87, Fig. 14.

J. H. ILIFFE

be drawn from the magnificent series of lamps from Tomb 33 at Tell en-Nasbeh, discovered in 1932.¹ Hence the pear-shaped form of lamp with the diagonal lines must occur in appreciable numbers as early as Constantine the Great,² though it may not become the dominating type until the second half of the fourth century. It is abundantly evident from recurring tomb groups that the el Bassa lamps, most of which are already practically of the 'slipper' shape, far from being 'sports' or in any way exceptional, are thoroughly typical of the latter half of the fourth century in Palestine.

J. H. ILIFFE.

¹ Not yet published (Aug. 1934).

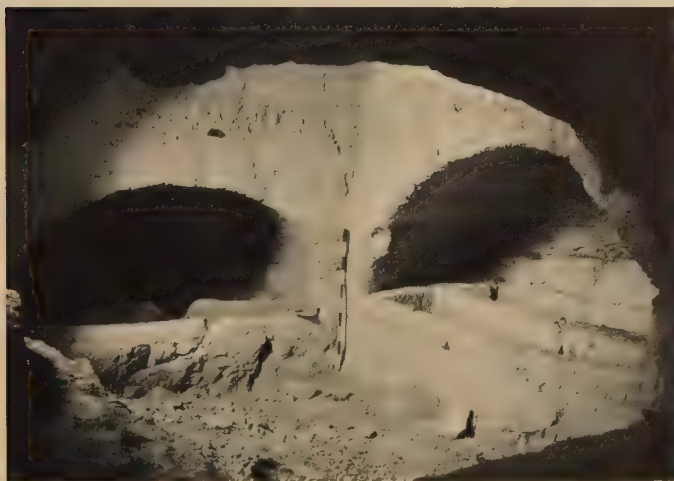
² Or sporadically even earlier. Cf. one in a third-century tomb from the Y.M.C.A. Ground, Jerusalem, *QDAP*, IV, p. 73.



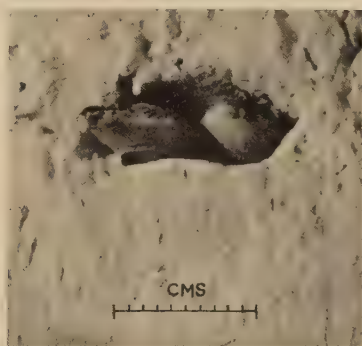
1



2

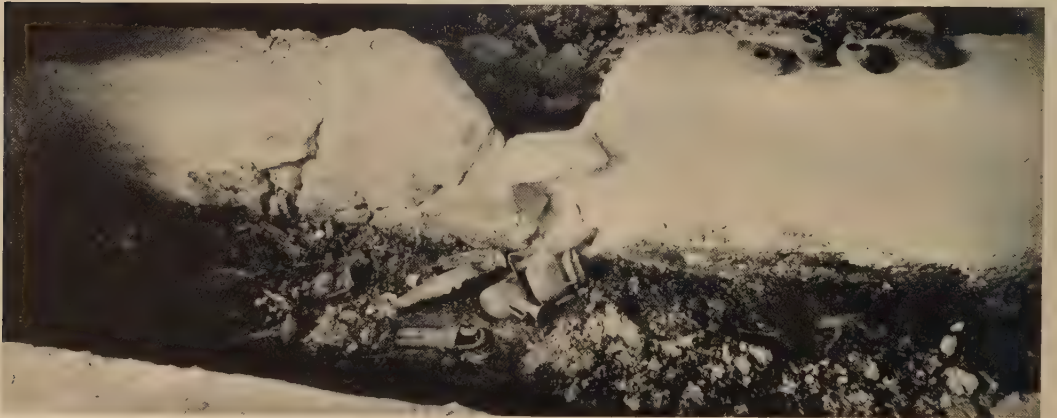


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4

FOURTH-CENTURY A.D. TOMB AT BEIT FAJJĀR



FOURTH-CENTURY A.D. TOMB AT BEIT FAJJĀR



FOURTH-CENTURY A.D. TOMB AT BEIT FAJJĀR

I. NOTE ON A PALESTINIAN PAINTED SHERD IN ATHENS (Pl. LXXXVII)

IN view of the great interest of the class of ware to which it belongs and of its own rather unusual character, it seems worth while to publish a sherd from Palestine now in the Collection of the British School at Athens.¹

Part of the neck, shoulder, and body of a large krater (?) with curved profile.² The wall is 0.005 m. thick except at the curve of the shoulder, where it is 0.010 m. Greatest length 0.165 m.

The inside has neither slip nor wash; the paste is pinkish, well-baked, and has a close hard texture. The outside has a fairly thick cream slip, unpolished, on which the ornament is painted in black and red. The black has a brownish and the red a purplish tinge; both are mat.

Red is used for the interior lines of the zones, and for the outlines of the birds' wings. It is also used for blood from wounds which the bull on the left is receiving from his two enemies. As this red is not clear in the illustration, I give the details. Two spots in the eye below the pupil; drops in front of his forehead and falling from his nose; a gash, which starting from the cheek, follows the line of the neck and passes down the foreleg; spots on the back where the cat³ is digging in her front claws; spots round the mouth of the cat, who has got the bull's tail in her mouth; and spots on her body and between her hind legs.

The reserved disc with central dot on the cat's shoulder, though curiously misplaced, must represent her eye.

There are, of course, analogies in the ancient pottery of the Near East to animals perched on the backs of other animals, some on ware of this class, and notably from Tel el 'Ajjūl.⁴ Apart from Palestinian examples, a krater of Mycenaean form from Cyprus may be compared, on which are shown hounds standing on the backs of lions and stags.⁵

For the actual drawing of the birds the nearest analogy known to me is on

¹ The provenance is given as 'Askalon or Tell el-Harbaj'. I have to thank Mr. H. G. G. Payne, Director of the School, for permission to publish the sherd. Mr. R. J. H. Jenkins very kindly photographed it.

² Apparently less carinated than most kraters of this class; cf. J. Garrow Duncan, *Corpus of Palestinian Pottery*, 'Decorated fragments', Pl. 18, Q. The neck is too wide for a jug.

³ Mr. A. Rowe identifies the animal as a cat, and suggests that she has been put on the bull's back to make him more ferocious.

⁴ e.g. Petrie, *Ancient Gaza*, Vol. I, Pl. XXVIII, 5.

⁵ Cf. *Bull. Corr. Hell.*, Vol. XXXI, p. 234, Figs. 13-15. The date is, of course, later and the drawing quite different.

a sherd from Tell el Ḥesī.¹ On a sherd from Tell el 'Ajjūl² the beaks are treated in the same individual way as in our fragment; the hatched wedge-shaped tail and the outlining of wings in red are common to several birds of this group.³ For the style of the bull the only close analogies I know are from Tell el 'Ajjūl⁴ and Enkomi,⁵ but in these cases horns and ears are not in outline.

There is at present, as far as I know, among vases of this class no other example of two registers each containing figures, or indeed of two registers at all.

W. A. HEURTLEY.

¹ Cf. J. Garrow Duncan, *Corpus of Palestinian Pottery*, 'Decorated fragments', Pl. 18, A.

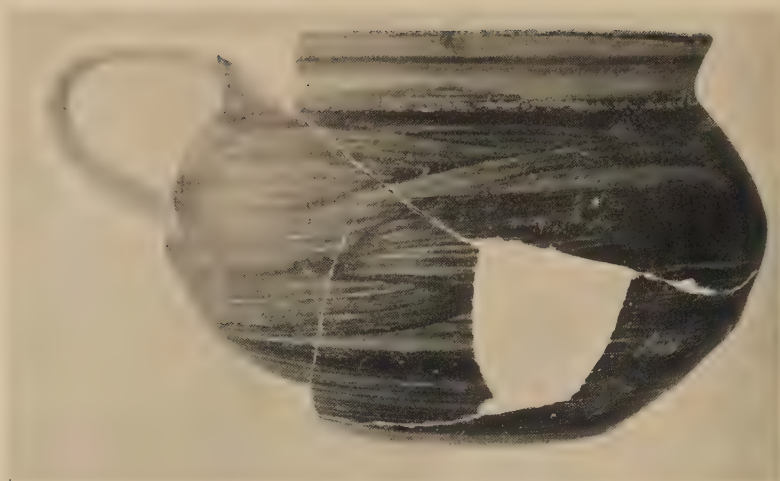
² Cf. Petrie, *Ancient Gaza*, Vol. III, Pl. XLI, 11; Vol. IV, Pl. XLIII, 8; Pl. XLIV, 14a, 14b.

³ e.g. *Ancient Gaza*, Vol. I, Pl. XXI, 44, 47.

⁴ Cf. *Ancient Gaza*, Vol. II, Pl. XXXVIII, 1. ⁵ Cf. *Swedish Cyprus Expedition*, Pl. LXX, 1.



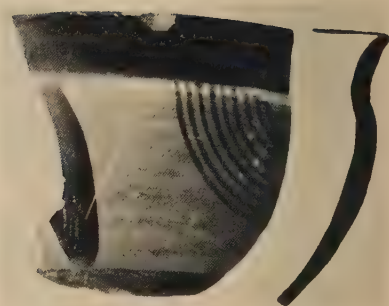
A PALESTINIAN SHERD IN ATHENS



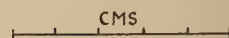
1 a



1 b



2



THESSALIAN PROTO-GEOMETRIC PIECES FROM TELL ABU HAWĀM

II. NOTE ON FRAGMENTS OF TWO THESSALIAN PROTO-GEOMETRIC VASES (Pl. LXXXVIII) FOUND AT TELL ABU HAWĀM

IN his report on Tell Abu Hawām Mr. Hamilton has drawn attention to the resemblance of fragments of two vases from Stratum III¹ with certain proto-Geometric vases found in tholos tombs in Thessaly.² It is, I think, possible to go a step farther and to show that they are actually imported into Palestine from Thessaly. In detail the points of identity are the following: in the case of the cup (Pl. LXXXVIII, 1a, 1b);³ the form; the slightly metallic lustre of the paint; the way it is applied, viz. in thin streaks of dark or light tone according to the flow of paint in the brush and the pressure of the stroke; the reserved central disc in the inside; the reserved zones on the outside and inside of the lip; the way in which the paint stops short of the base. In the case of the bowl-fragment (Pl. LXXXVIII, 2),⁴ identity of form ornament and technique with Thessalian is, as far as I can see, complete. That the Thessalian vases were made in Thessaly and not in any other centre is proved by the fact that the makers of the Thessalian proto-Geometric vases borrowed certain forms and ornaments from the local hand-made painted vases, many of which were found along with their proto-Geometric imitations in the same tombs.⁵ These tombs were dated between approximately 1000 and 850 B.C., the upper date being based on a rough estimate of the time required for the proto-Geometric style, which developed directly out of the latest Mycenaean⁶ soon after 1100,⁷ to reach the mature stage in which it is found in Thessaly; the lower being based on the absence from the tombs of Geometric pottery, known from the contents of other Thessalian tombs to have been popular there. To the end of the stratum at Tell Abu Hawām in which the vases were found a date 925 has been assigned with great probability,⁷ so that, if the Thessalian dating is correct, they would have been imported into Palestine during the tenth century, and it is interesting to have evidence of contact between Greece and Palestine at a time.⁸

W. A. HEURTLEY.

¹ *QDAP*, Vol. IV, pp. 23, 24, Nos. 95, 96, and Pls. XII, XIII.

² *Annual of British School at Athens*, Vol. XXXI, Pl. VI, 83-8, Pl. VII, 117-22, Fig. 12.

³ Cf. especially *ibid.*, Pl. VI, 83, 84.

⁴ Cf. especially *ibid.*, Pl. VII, 121.

⁵ Cf. *ibid.*, pp. 46-50.

⁶ Sometimes known as sub-Mycenaean.

⁷ The evidence for this statement rests partly on material from recent excavations in the Kera-meikos at Athens (*Arch. Anzeiger*, 1934, 229-235), and in the Ionian islands (To be published in the forthcoming *Annual of the British School at Athens*, Vol. XXXIII.)

⁸ Cf. *QDAP*, Vol. IV, p. 66.

⁹ Mr. Hamilton refers to a fragment of a similar bowl found at Askalon (*QDAP*, Vol. IV, p. 24).

A TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP RECONSIDERED

SILVER VESSELS OF THE PERSIAN PERIOD

THE interesting tomb group here republished was discovered by Sir Flinders Petrie during his excavations at Tell Fār'a in 1928. It has been previously published in his *Beth-Pelet I*, Pls. XLIV–XLVI, p. 14 (Tomb No. 650). Since the objects came to the Museum the parts of the bronze couch have been cleaned. The resulting examination of them has led to a reconstruction different from that of Sir Flinders Petrie. Since a study of all the contents of the tomb suggests a date considerably lower than that assigned to them by the excavator (c. 850 B.C.), it has seemed worth while to republish the whole group here.

I. *The Couch and Stool*. Museum Catalogue Nos. M. 1142 and M. 1143. The reconstruction of one end given in *Beth-Pelet I*, Pl. XLV, 6 cannot be maintained, inasmuch as the heavy corner pieces there shown at the bottom, serving as feet ('to prevent sinking in sand, or injuring carpets'—*loc. cit.*, p. 14) are clearly intended for the top members, their upper surface being flat in order to accommodate the webbing supports of the bed itself, of which a fragment was found adhering to a piece of the bronze frame of the stool. They are also the heaviest members because strength is most necessary around the upper part of the framework. They are therefore to be assigned to the upper corners of the couch (Pl. LXXXIX, 1). This arrangement has already been suggested by Watzinger,¹ whose reconstruction, however, is not in all particulars correct (e.g. the rods running lengthwise between the legs. He also omits the bronze fittings which form the stool). Evidence for our reconstruction is to be found in Petrie, *loc. cit.*, Pl. XLVI, 1 and 3, which show the bronze fittings of one of the couch legs still in position as it lay before the wooden connecting pieces had decayed. These illustrations also give the relative intervals between the bronze pieces, which have been adopted in reconstructing the couch.

It is clear that the smaller angle pieces (Petrie, *loc. cit.*, Pl. XLV, 5 and 6: at top in either photograph) belong to a separate piece of furniture. They are replicas on a smaller scale of the larger ones from the couch, and must have served a similar purpose. Accordingly, we have restored them as part of a stool (Pl. LXXXIX, 2). Such a combination of couch and stool is common enough on the monuments;² archaic Greek and Etruscan tombs both have it. The pieces are more damaged and fragmentary than those of the couch, as will be seen in the photographs, but quite enough remains to admit of restoring

¹ *Denkmäler Palästinas*, I, Taf. 20, Abb. 44.

² Cf. Watzinger, *loc. cit.*, p. 110 and *reft.*

A TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP RECONSIDERED

the stool. Evidence is only lacking for the length of the sides (which have been restored as square) and the height. The bronze feet pieces were of the same form as those of the couch, but as they were very fragmentary they have been wholly replaced by wooden copies in the reconstruction.

The width of the couch is given by the two rods which run across the ends, fitting into holes in the central bronze moulding of each leg. There were no such holes for rods running lengthwise of the couch, and no satisfactory position has been discovered for the other similar rods of which fragments occurred in the tomb, unless they were set vertically in the upper angle pieces of the couch,¹ each of which has a central hole not otherwise explicable (Pl. LXXXIX, 3 and 4). Finally, in the process of cleaning there were found on the upper flat surface of the angle pieces of the couch several Hebrew letters, one on each piece, evidently to guide the maker in putting the couch together, and parallel to marks used in building (Pl. LXXXIX, 3 and 4). Only two remained complete and decipherable, the other two having disappeared with the corrosion of the metal, except for a tiny portion of a letter on the third angle piece, proving that it also had originally borne one, and probably, therefore, the fourth also. The two letters remaining are *hē* (𐤇) and *beth* (𐤁). Their form would suit well a date about the fifth or fourth century B.C., which on all grounds seems the most probable period to which to assign the tomb.² It certainly cannot be earlier.

The association of couch and stool may be well seen on Greek vases of the sixth to fifth century B.C.,³ as well as on the sculptured monuments, such as the Harpy Tomb. The present type of couch, with various elaborations, was characteristic of the Greek and Hellenistic periods: a good example was found at Priene.⁴ It was also widely copied at Pompeii and Herculaneum.⁵ Its characteristic feature is the turned legs.

II. *The Silver Bowl and Dipper* (Pls. XC and XCI). Museum Catalogue Nos. M. 1140 and M. 1141. The bowl is fluted and mesomphalic, with slightly everted rim.⁶ The dipper is a graceful and delicate piece of work,

¹ As the support of a canopy, perhaps, somewhat after the manner of rods for a mosquito net.

² Dr. E. L. Sukenik has been kind enough to furnish me with the following note on the style of the letters: 'The ductus of the letters points to a date not earlier than the fifth century B.C. In Pl. LXXXIX, 3, the head of the *y* has both lost its angularity and become opened at the top. In Pl. LXXXIX, 4, the *𐤇* has lost its lowest horizontal bar.'

³ Cf., e.g., Pfuhl, *Malerei u. Zeichnung der Griechen*, III, Pl. 120, No. 338, in addition to *reff.* under p. 182, n. 2 above.

⁴ Wiegand u. Schrader, *Priene* (Berlin, 1904), pp. 378 seqq.

⁵ Cf. also in general, Miss G. M. A. Richter, *Ancient Furniture, Greek, Etruscan and Roman*, pp. 130 seqq. and *passim*.

⁶ Diam. of bowl 0.175 m.; ht. 0.047 m.; weight 354.7 gm.; length of dipper 0.220 m.; weight 159.2 gm. Both weights after cleaning.

and, as Sir Flinders Petrie says, distinctly Syrian in style. The double bulls' heads just below the ring handle, the incised lotus at the junction of handle and bowl, and not least the style of the figure's head, are Syrian. The form of both is sufficiently illustrated by the photographs. The technique in either case consists of casting supplemented by incised decoration; the casting was done in several sections subsequently joined. In the dipper the figure is joined (at the feet) not quite squarely with the fluted upper part of the handle and ring.

Among the closest parallels to the fluted bowl are several similar silver bowls in the Cairo Museum¹ from Tell Tmaï (Thmouis) near Mansurah in the Delta. These were all found by E. Brugsch in 1871, and are dated approximately to the Ptolemaic period in the Museum Catalogue. They are of almost identical shape with ours, being mesomphalic, fluted, and with slightly flaring rim. They are somewhat more decorated than the present bowl from Tell Fār'a, having a rosette in some cases on the underside of the omphalos, and 'olives' between the points of the fluted leaves.

The Ptolemaic dating for them is only approximate, being based on the fact that by Ptolemaic times Thmouis had definitely established itself as the successor to the neighbouring early Egyptian town of Mendes, a position it continued to enjoy throughout the Roman period. But already from the time of Herodotus, Mendes and Thmouis had co-existed;² so that a fourth- or even fifth-century date for the Thmouis silver vessels is quite possible, and indeed, on the evidence of the parallels quoted in the present article, seems most probable.

Thus, another similar bowl was discovered in an Achaemenid tomb at Susa by J. de Morgan, and dated to the middle of the fourth century B.C.³ It has the rosette beneath the omphalos like several of the Tell Tmaï bowls, but resembles the Tell Fār'a one in lacking the 'olives' between the points of the long leaves. Like the Tell Fār'a bowl also, it was first cast and then gone over with a fine point to outline the design. Both were turned on the wheel, and on the underside of both, in the centre of the omphalos, can easily be seen the

¹ Vernier, *Cat. Gen. du Musée du Caire, Bijoux et Orfèvreries*, Nos. 53.267, 53.275, 53.276, 53.277.

² For these two sites v. A. Scharff, *Ein Besuch von Mendes*, and A. Langsdorff u. S. Schott, *Der Tell von Thmuis*, in *Mitt. des deutschen Instituts für ägyptische Altertumskunde in Kairo*, Band I (1930), pp. 130-6, Taf. XXVI-XXX, and reff. there quoted; especially Naville, *Ahnas el Medineh*, &c. (Eleventh memoir of the E.E.F., 1894), p. 15 and sqq. Also Gauthier, *Dictionnaire Géographique*, Tome II, p. 74, s.v. 'per ba nib Zadou'. For these latter references and much oral information about Thmouis I am indebted to Mr. Alan Rowe, who has personally inspected the site.

³ *Mémoires de la Délégation en Perse*, VIII, pp. 29 seqq., especially p. 43, Pl. II and III.

A TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP RECONSIDERED

tiny hole made by the point of the machine on which it revolved.¹ There can be no doubt as to the homogeneity in style and period of the three groups.

The Tell Tmaï group includes also a silver vase² which is of interest to students of Palestinian archaeology for its bearing on a much-discussed question, the dating of the so-called 'Philistine' graves found at Gezer by Macalister.³ This vase is very similar in shape and decoration to several silver vases from the Gezer 'Philistine' graves, which must now be assigned to a date at least not earlier than the Persian period. Such a view, suggested at first by the similarity of the silver vessels, all of which, whether from Tell Fār'a, Susa, or Tell Tmaï, are assignable to the Persian period on strong evidence, is reinforced by a consideration of the other contents of the Gezer graves. Thus Grave 4 includes an obviously Persian seal,⁴ and Grave 5 contains a silver dipper ending upwards in a ring, on which are two lions' heads, very similar in style to the bulls' heads on our dipper. Moreover, at the back of the junction between bowl and handle the Gezer dipper has a 'simple palmette ornamentation',⁵ analogous to the lotus pattern on the Tell Fār'a one. Further study of the whole 'Philistine' grave material from Gezer will reveal close correspondences with the contents of the present Tell Fār'a tomb, as well as the Achaemenid grave from Susa above quoted (e.g. the bracelets with lion-head terminals).

The groups were found widely separated geographically, but cannot be far removed from one another in date; all alike are essentially a product of the Persian rather than of the sub-Mycenaean age.

Finally, to reinforce the argument for a lower date than that assigned by Sir Flinders Petrie to the present tomb, comes the upper part of a 'hole-mouth' jar (Mus. Cat. No. V. 1972), of a form characteristic of the fifth and fourth centuries B.C., e.g. at 'Atlīt, where it occurred plentifully in rock-cut tombs of this period.⁶ Sir Flinders Petrie's dating of this shape to before 700 B.C. is several centuries too high.

¹ Cf. also for the technique of the present bowl and those from the Tell Tmaï treasure, Vernier, 'La Bijouterie et la Joaillerie Égyptiennes', *MIFAO*, II, pp. 114-16, Pls. XXI and XXII, 1; von Bissing, *Cat. Général du Musée du Caire, Antiquités égyptiennes, Metallgefässe*, Nos. 3581-5, and Taf. III. In the latter place the date is given as Ptolemaic with a query, and somewhat more precise indications given of the circumstances of the find.

² Vernier, *Bijoux et Orfèvreries (Cat. Général)*, No. 53.274.

³ v. Macalister, *Gezer*, Vol. I, pp. 289-300, &c.

⁴ Macalister, *ibid.*, Fig. 154, No. 142 (p. 293).

⁵ Cf. Macalister's description, *loc. cit.*, p. 294.

⁶ Cf. C. N. Johns, *QDAP*, Vol. II, pp. 41 seqq.; especially Tombs L/16 (p. 60; Pl. XIX) and L/23 (pp. 83 seqq.). The latter tomb has the further analogy of yielding a quadripartite bronze kuhl-tube set, somewhat like that shown in Petrie, *ad loc.*, Pl. XLIV, 1, but not mentioned in his text.

While, therefore, absolute precision in the dating of the contents of the present tomb is not attainable, we may with some confidence assign it to a time within the period *c.* 450–330 B.C. The whole group, along with the 'Atlit tombs above mentioned, and the parallel ones quoted, is of considerable interest for our knowledge of the Persian period, for which literary evidence is especially lacking.¹

J. H. ILIFFE.

¹ Yet another silver bowl of the same style was found in a grave of the Persian period at Ur, in the excavations of 1929–30, by Mr. Woolley; *v. Antiquaries Journal*, X (1930), p. 319, Pl. XXXVIa, and *The Museum Journal*, XXI (1930), p. 84, Pl. VIII, fig. 5. From Mr. Woolley's description, it is 'decorated with fluting and chased work', and falls into the same family as the other bowls here treated of. No longer can it be regarded as 'unique' (*loc. cit.*).



1



2



3

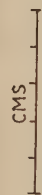


4

TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP



Inside



Outside



Side view

TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP



TELL FĀR'A TOMB GROUP

MOSAIC PAVEMENTS IN PALESTINE

SECOND SUPPLEMENT

IT is hoped to publish every year a supplement to the list of mosaic pavements, in order to keep it up to date. This supplement includes a number of sites omitted from the first supplement published in Vol. III, pp. 49-57.¹

363. 'AIN EL JEDĪDE. XVII. L. t.

1. Mosaic pavement seen in section of broken vault.²

2. (a) Courtyard. White mosaic of coarse quality, one cube 3 cm. sq.

(b) Outside north door of chapel panel with inscription:

Ὑπὲρ σωτηρίας καὶ ἀντι[λήψεως]/[τῶ]ν ὁσίων πατέρων ἡμῶν α[. . .]/[. . .]νίου τῶν
πρεσ[βυτέρ]ων καὶ . . ./[Διακ]όνου καὶ ὧν [γινώσκει ὁ κύριος]/[τὰ ὀνόματ]α ἐπιφώθ[η . . .]
For the salvation and repose of our holy fathers . . . the priests and . . . deacon and those
(whose names the Lord knows) . . . was paved with mosaics . . .

Dating: End of the sixth century A.D.

(c) Area to west: Coarse mosaics.

(d) Press with two rooms, one of which contained the press, the other the vat. Lined with white mosaics.

Bibl.: Hamilton in *QDAP*, Vol. IV, pp. 95-8.

364. 'AQD EL 'ĀZĪRIYYE. VIII. J. i.

Ground strewn with white tesserae.

365. 'AṢĪRET ESH SHAMĀLIYYE ('AṢĪRET EL ḤAṬAB). XI. N. n./N. o.

Mosaics in the village.

366. EL BĀṬYE. XVI. I. s.

Tessellated floor observed in section of trench.

367. BEIT FAJJĀR. XXI. L. v.

Mosaic pavements found occasionally.

368. BEIT ĪKA. XVII. K. u.

Rectangular enclosure strewn with rough mosaics. Big white tesserae.

Ment.: Tonneau in *RB.*, 1929, p. 425.

369. BEIT NATTĪF. XVII. J. u.

Weli of Sh. 'Abdallah. Narthex of church, fifth or sixth century A.D.

Surround: white. Border: *A6*³ in *A2*, *B12*. Field: Diamonds in interstices of hexagons with *I4*, swastika, and flowers. Each hexagon divided by band of *B2* with four twists, separating two peltas (*I I4*) turned inwards.

Bibl.: Baramki in *QDAP*, IV, pp. 103 ff.

¹ For a Key to the abbreviations used see Vol. III, p. 57 and 185 n. 1.

² As to foundations of mosaics on vaults see below No. 373 and Blanchet, *La mosaïque*, Paris, 1928, p. 16.

³ These types refer to the plates published in Vol. II, pp. 138-41 of this *Quarterly*.

M. AVI-YONAH

370. BEIT SĀḤŪR. XVII. M. U.

Traces of floor of rough large tesserae in section of hill on both sides of the mouth of a cistern.

371. BĪR ED DAWĀLI. XVII. L. S.

In middle of site, cistern with tessellated pavement.

372. BIRKET JALJŪLYE. XVIII. P. S.

White tesserae.

373. DABĀYIB ET ṬWĀL. IX. Q. K.

Mosaic floor, 1.40 by 0.90 m., in white, blue, and red. Sixty-eight tesserae to 10 cm. sq. Border: *A1*. Field: *H7*, sprigs type *F3*.

374. DEIR 'ARĀBI. XIV. K. Q.

White tesserae.

375. EL ḤAMME (Addendum to No. 86)

Excavations of the Hebrew University in 1932. Fragmentary pavement of narthex and synagogue hall.

(i) Narthex. Series of squares in black and white. Possibly fragment of border.

(ii) Synagogue hall. (a) Central nave: Border: *B2* in *A2-B7*; this border separates also the three panels. (1) First panel has a white field; in centre a wreath with lemniscus fillet containing a ten-line Judaeo-Aramaic inscription in Hebrew square letters (see below). The wreath is flanked by two lions statant guardant; behind each lion a cypress tree.

Inscription:

ודכיר למב/קורם הופלים וקורה/פרוטון וקורם סלוסטים/חתנה וקומם פרורום ברה/וקורים פוטים חתנה וקורם/
חנינה ברה חננו ובניהון/דמציותון תירין בכל אתר/דהבון הכה חמישה דינרין/דהב מלך עלמה יתן ברכתה/
בעמלהון אמן אמן סלה.

And honoured be the memory of Kyrios Hoples and Kyria Proton and Kyrios Sallustius his son-in-law and Count Pheroras his son and Kyrios Photius his son-in-law and Kyrios Hanina his son, they and their children, whose acts of charity are constant everywhere (and) who have given five gold dinars here. May the King of the Universe give his blessing on their undertaking, Amen, Amen, Sela.

Below the wreath a long *tabula ansata* containing two inscriptions of four lines, arranged one along the other and separated by a black line.

(2) Second panel to north of (1). Field: *H7* with sprigs type *F31*. In each square alternatively a pomegranate fruit and a flower with a superimposed 'cross'.¹

(3) Third panel, to north of (2). Diagonal lines forming rectangles and squares. Another system of alternating large and small squares in diagonal rows is placed at right angles to the first. Each square has an *A2* frame; the larger ones contain *I4*, the smaller counter-changing lines.² Two sprigs *F1* issue from each square. In this panel there is slightly to right a *tabula ansata* with a five-line inscription. The corresponding inscription, supposed to have been on the left, is lost.

¹ Cf. Nos. 344, 347.

² Cf. No 346(7).

MOSAIC PAVEMENTS IN PALESTINE, SECOND SUPPLEMENT

(4) In the west corner near the apse: Type 16, 4 cups, with vine trellis issuing, in corners.

(c) East aisle: pattern of circles with border of squares. In each square a pomegranate.

(d) West aisle: fragment of *tabula ansata* frame of inscription.

Bibl.: Sukenik in *Qōbeṣ*, *JPES*, 1934, pp. 41–61, Pls.; id. *Ancient Synagogues in Palestine and Greece*, London, 1934, pp. 81 f.

376. EL HUFNE. V. K. h.

(1) Patch of sand 10 m. in diameter, with white tesserae.

(2) Fragment of plain white coarse mosaic.

377. 'IRĀQ ISMĀ'ĪN. XVII. K. t.

Remains of mosaic.

Ment.: Abel, *Géographie de la Palestine*, Paris, 1933, Vol. I, p. 443.

378. JĀNYE. XIV. L. v.

Coloured mosaic pavement reported existing across wadi.

Ment.: Peters in *QSt.*, 1904, p. 385.

379–80. JERICHO. XVIII. P. s.

379. Property of Ibrāhīm esh Shalabi. Cleared 5 m. sq. Border: Three black lines. Field: *H* 5 with one arm counter-changing, the other with *B* 2. In half circles on border 18. In circles in centre convolutes.

380. Near Elisha's fountain, south of the main road. Fragmentary mosaic pavement with white ground and border of four black lines.

381. JERICHO–JORDAN ROAD. XVIII. P. s.

Nestorian hermitage with chapel paved with mosaics. Surround: white, with indented square having two sprigs (*F*23) at each corner near the door and five indented squares forming cross in recess to east. Border: *A*2. Field: Sprinkled with indented squares. In centre circle with Syriac inscription; in eight lines.

This Monastery was built in the days of Doniel of Ahwāz, Yoḥannōn the Persian, Isho'dad of Qatrōye, and Ba'ya of Shahorzūr. May the Lord have mercy on them on the Day of Judgement.

Dating: ninth century A.D.

Bibl.: Baramki and Stephan in *QDAP.*, Vol. IV, pp. 81–6.

382. JERUSALEM. AMERICAN SCHOOL OF ORIENTAL RESEARCH

Quantities of tesserae found in various places in a tomb complex, most of them large and coarse.

Bibl.: Burrows in *BASOR*, No. 47, p. 30 f.

383. JERUSALEM. DEIR ABU TŌR

Scanty remains of mosaic with geometric patterns in south nave of church.

Ment.: Schneider in *OChr*, 1933, p. 152.

M. AVI-YONAH

384. JERUSALEM, MOUNT OF OLIVES

Edge of mosaic pavement found in a quarry called Dahrat el Beyāra near et Tōr village.

385. EL JŌRA

Mosaic pavement of white tesserae on top of vault.¹

386. KAḤR SHIYYĀN. XVII. L. S.

Fragmentary tessellated pavement in central structure of the village.

Ment.: Peters in *QSt.*, 1904, p. 378.

387. KAḤR SĪB. XI. K. m.

Mosaic near the tomb of Jamal ed-din.

388. KH. 'ALYA. XVII. L. u.

Foundations of Roman villa with white mosaic.

389. KH. 'AṬṬĀRA. XVII. N. S.

Oil press with mosaic.

Ment.: Dalman in *Pfj*, 1914, p. 18.

390. KH. 'AUJA ET TAḤṬĀNĪ. XV. P. r.

Remains of big mosaic, with black, white, and red tesserae.

Ment.: Thomsen in *MuNDPV*, 1912, p. 73; Guthe in *ZDPV*, 1915, p. 45.

391. KH. BARADA. XVII. K. S.

Mosaic cubes.

Ment.: Clermont-Ganneau in *AR*, Vol. II, p. 88.

392. KH. BARĀ'ISH. XIV. K. q.

Tessellated pavement.

393. KH. BARNĪQYA. XIV. J. p.

Scattered white tesserae.

394. KH. BEDD FĀLŪḤ. XVII. M. u.

Numerous mosaic cubes.

Ment.: Alt in *Pfj*, 1932, p. 53.

395. KH. BEIT MIZZE. XVII. L. t.

Ground thickly strewn with mosaic cubes.

Ment.: Clermont-Ganneau in *AR*, Vol. I, p. 479; Lagrange in *RB*, 1894, p. 139.

396. KH. BEIT NUSHĒF. XVII. K. S.

Scattered white tesserae.

¹ Cf. note 2 on p. 187.

MOSAIC PAVEMENTS IN PALESTINE, SECOND SUPPLEMENT

397. KH. BUYŪDAT. XV. P. r.

North end of site. At north-east corner of a building, large number of variously coloured mosaic tesserae.

398. KH. ED DABBE. XIII. G. r.

Mosaic cubes.

Ment.: Clermont-Ganneau in *AR*, Vol. II, p. 162 f.

399. KH. EL ḤAYA. XVII. N. s.

Mosaics found occasionally.

Ment.: Lagrange in *RB*, 1895, p. 94.

400. KH. EL JEDĪRE. XVII. J. t.

White mosaic pavement in the west part of the site.

401. KH. LASAN. XX. F. w.

Scattered tesserae.

402. KH. MASHRAB. XVIII. O. t.

Remains of building with mosaic pavement. A small area cleared showed a scale pattern (چ) in white, red, and black.

403. KH. MANṢŪR EL 'AQĀB. VII. J. k.

Scattered tesserae.

404. KH. EL QUTN. XXI. J. v.

Mosaic floor.

405. KH. SĀRĪN. XI. N. o.

Scattered tesserae.

406. KH. UMM EL 'ADAS. XVII. J. u.

White tesserae scattered over site.

407. KH. UMM EL 'UMDĀN. XXI. J. v.

White mosaic pavement to south-east of site. Most of the east part of the site is strewn with tesserae.

408. LIFTA. XVII. M. t.

Mosaic fragments found on property of Haj 'Aqel el Liftāwī.

409. MEIRŪN. IV. P. f.

Mosaic pavement with big tesserae found in barn to south of the modern synagogue.

410. NA'ĀNA. XVI. I. s.

Tessellated pavement.

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411. NUḤF. IV. N. f.

Before house of Khalil Musa. Mosaic pavement in black and white chequer, each square having 23 sq. cm.

412. ER RASM (SOUTH OF GAZA)

Scattered tesserae.

413. ṢĀLḤA. IV. P. e.

White pavement 2.40 m. sq. Eighteen tesserae to 10 cm. sq. of local limestone. Probably catchment of ruined cistern.

414. SINJIL. XIV. N. g.

Mosaic pavement of large white tesserae in property of Abdallāh Maḥmūd Abdallāh.

415. SŪRĪF. XXI. K. v.

Fragments of coloured mosaic pavement found on space of 5 × 7 m. in the property of Mūsā 'Āshūr.

416. TAKĀRA (NEAR TANTŪRA). VII. I. j.

Roman mosaic floor in very good condition.

Ment.: *Palestine Post*, 30 August 1933, p. 4.

417. ET TELL. XIV. N. q.

Traces of mosaic.

Ment.: Alt in *Pf*^b, 1927, p. 50.

418. TELL ER RIYĀḤ. XIX. D. w.

Mosaic pavement.

419. TELL EZ ZĪF. XXI. L. x.

Numerous mosaic cubes.

Ment.: Mader, p. 172.

420. TINĀNI. v. j. h.

Scattered tesserae and white mosaic pavement.

421. UMM EL MUDDĒDE (SOUTH-WEST OF KHAN YŪNĪS)

Scattered marble tesserae.

422. UMM ES SUWWĒD. XXI. J. v.

Rock-cut press paved with white mosaic, to east of site.

423. WĀDĪ EL BAṢṢA. XXI. K. w.

Coloured mosaics close to Kh. Ṣarāṣīr.

424. YABRŪD. XIV. M. r.

Mosaic pavement of floor said to exist in the village.

MOSAIC PAVEMENTS IN PALESTINE, SECOND SUPPLEMENT

KEY TO PATTERNS

<i>A</i> 1: 373.	<i>F</i> 1: 375.	<i>I</i> 4: 369, 375.
<i>A</i> 2: 369, 375, 381.	<i>F</i> 3: 373.	<i>I</i> 6: 375.
<i>A</i> 6: 369.	<i>F</i> 23: 381.	<i>I</i> 8: 379.
	<i>F</i> 31: 375.	<i>I</i> 14: 369.
<i>B</i> 2: 369, 375, 379.		
<i>B</i> 7: 375.	<i>H</i> 5: 379.	<i>J</i> 3: 402.
<i>B</i> 12: 369.	<i>H</i> 7: 373, 375.	

ADDENDA TO BIBLIOGRAPHIES

1. Musil, *Edom*, Vol. II, 1, p. 223.
5. Clermont-Ganneau, *AR*, Vol. II, p. 277.
24. Tonneau in *RB.*, 1929, p. 424.
116. Germer-Durand in *EO*, 1908, p. 303, where the date is fixed with the help of another inscription as about A.D. 592.
132. Clermont-Ganneau, *AR*, Vol. I, p. 513.
195. Alt in *Pfjb*, 1926, p. 78, n. 5.
205. Clermont-Ganneau, *AR*, Vol. II, p. 70.
250. Musil, *Edom*, Vol. II, 1, p. 218.
344. Mader in *Theologie und Glaube*, 1933, pp. 669-77; ib. in *HL*, 1934, pp. 1-15, 41-66, 89-103, 129-149, 26 figs., Pl. in colours, 2 plans; Schneider, *Die Brotvermehrungskirche von et-tâbga am genesarethsee und ihre Mosaiken*, Paderborn, 1934, pp. 51-79, Figs. 10-14, Pls. A, B, 1-31.

M. AVI-YONAH.

EXCAVATIONS IN PALESTINE, 1933-4¹

'*Atlīt*

(Department of Antiquities.)

THE Crusader cemetery of the thirteenth century has been discovered and cleared at the original ground-level. More than 1,700 burials have been recognized, the majority of them by their original cover of rubble and mud or ashlar and plaster, more or less intact. A few had solid tombstones, carved with varieties of the Latin cross: fleury, pattee, patriarchal, or plain. None of these covers have been disturbed, but a number of unprotected graves have been examined; among these a common attitude prevails, the body lies on its back fully extended, head to the west, arms crossed. Adolescents and children have been found as well as adults. But nothing of importance has been found in association with the burials. At the same time, from the top of earth between the graves, scattered pieces of slip-ware, with painted or *graffiato* decoration, have been collected, which must chiefly belong to the Crusader occupation (1217-91) and do actually correspond with types already familiar from the suburb within the walls. The cemetery lay beside the medieval road approaching the north gate of the suburb, and will be found on the north of the present car track about 250 m. from the gate.

Beisān

(University Museum, Philadelphia; directed by Mr. G. M. Fitzgerald.)

THE tenth season of the Beisān excavations lasted from September to December 1933. A small clearance at the tell edge on the XIXth Dynasty level produced two interesting bronze objects, probably of E I period, a tripod of a type found in Crete, Cyprus, and Greece (Lamb, *Greek and Roman Bronzes*, pp. 32 ff., Pls. X and XI), and a stand or candelabrum like those found in the 'burnt stratum' of Megiddo. The main work of the season consisted in going down *c.* 8.50 m. below Level X B (of MB II, Hyksos period) to virgin soil in a small area, measuring about 24 m. by 16 m. The excavated levels, (numbered XI-XVIII) represented about twelve periods of (apparently continuous) occupation and in addition there were shallow pits in the virgin soil which had probably been roofed over and used as dwellings. The few walls standing in the two lowest building-levels (XVII and XVIII) were built of small mud bricks with rounded tops ('plano-convex'); the levels above all had walls of flat unbaked bricks. Level XVI contained several curved walls and

¹ Continued from Vol. III, pp. 173-84.

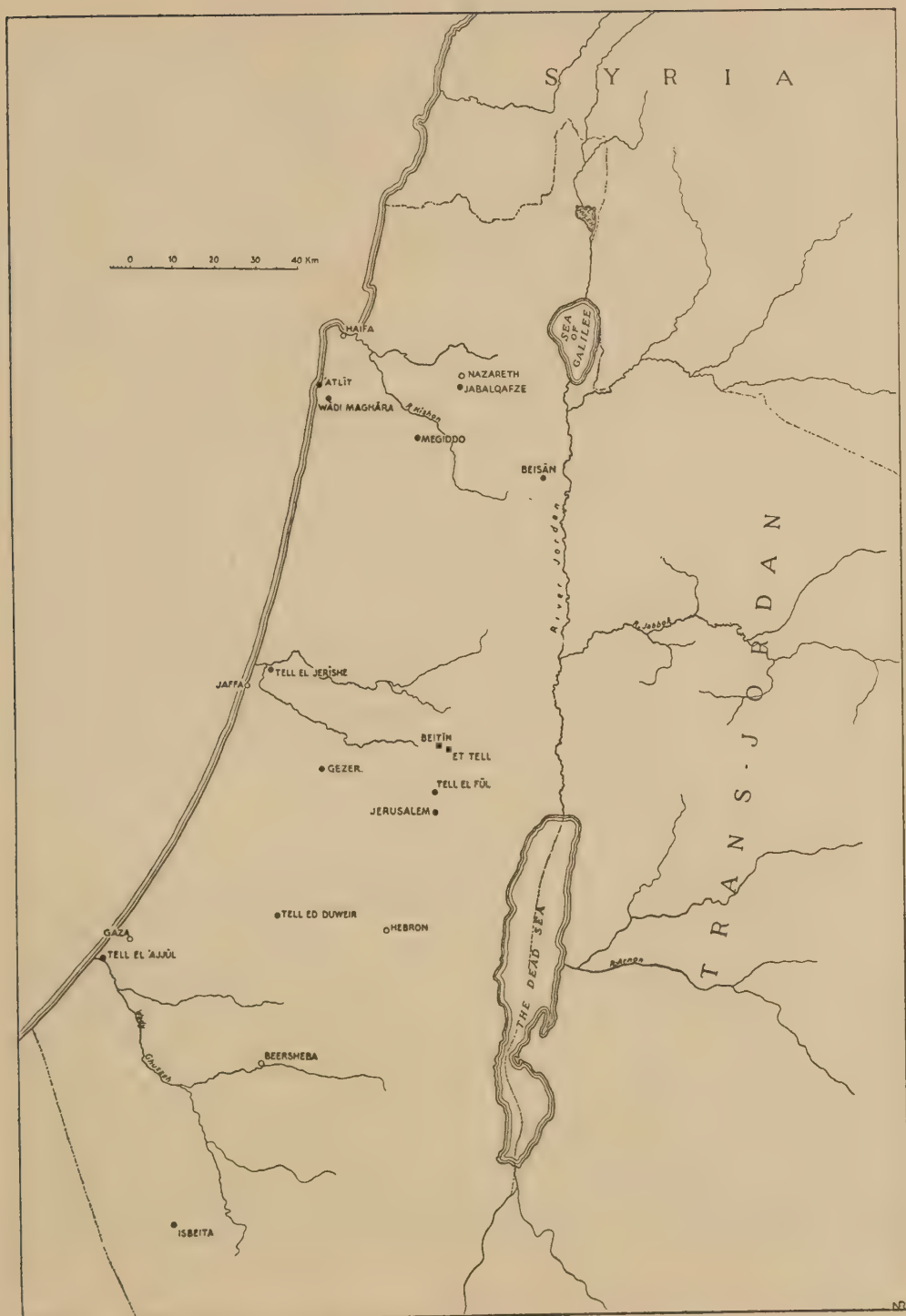


FIG. I. EXCAVATIONS IN PALESTINE, 1933-4 (Sites excavated marked •).

a small house of apsidal form with a hearth and a small flooring of potsherds. In levels XV and XIV most of the walls were straight and in level XIII there were some well-built rooms with good stone foundations. There was no sign of a city wall or rampart at the tell edge at any level. The interest of the season's work consists chiefly in the succession of pottery types, which may be summarized as follows: in the pits of virgin soil and in level XVIII were some painted sherds with bands of chevrons in red; only loop handles were found at the lowest level; levels XVIII-XVI had hand-made jars decorated with bands of finger-prints; levels XVII-XV grey-black burnished ware, mainly carinated bowls; levels XVII-XIII ledge handles with indented edges; all levels from XVI upwards contained plain ledge, and all from XIV upwards pushed-up ledge handles, and inturned bowl-rims, pattern (or lattice) burnishing, and lug-handled pots. In levels XV-XIII were many jars with heavy rims and criss-cross painted decoration. Level XII was distinguished by the sudden incoming of a very fine lustrous burnished pottery, with black or red surface (Khirbet Kerak ware) which dominated that level and part of level XI. With this were stump-based juglets, fold-over (envelope) ledge handles and lids with knobs. In level XI the burnished ware was abruptly displaced by typical MB II pottery. Numerous Hyksos burials were found in levels XI and XII, adults as well as children having been buried below the floors of levels X and XI. Flint implements were common throughout, the long ribbon knives of level XIII being especially noticeable. There was hardly any metal before the Hyksos period, except two copper axes and some other implements found at level XVI.

Beit̄n

(Joint Expedition, American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, and Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary; directed by Dr. W. F. Albright and Professor J. L. Kelso.)

THE first campaign of excavation began 9 July 1934 and lasted until the middle of September. This expedition was conducted jointly by the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem and the Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary, represented, respectively, by Dr. W. F. Albright and Professor J. L. Kelso. This expedition replaces temporarily the Tell Beit Mirsim one, conducted by the same two institutions in co-operation, but does not supersede it, since it is planned to resume work at the former site at an early opportunity. It was organized primarily as a memorial to the late Dr. M. G. Kyle, well known for his long and productive interest in Palestinian archaeology. With the heads of the expedition were associated ten others, several of whom have had considerable archaeological experience, as in the case of

Professor O. R. Sellers and Dr. I. Ben Dor. The architect of the expedition was Mr. M. M. Levine.

In the autumn of 1927 Dr. Albright made soundings just north of the modern village of Beitin, and discovered remains of the various most important periods of the history of the town, besides clearing parts of the inside face of the Middle Bronze city wall. It was therefore clear that the area north of the modern village, now occupied by a fig orchard, known as Hākūret el-'Illiyye, would probably be an excellent site for excavation. This expectation has been amply confirmed. Since the Byzantine and medieval Arabic occupations of the town were largely in the east and south, no Arab remains were found on the summit, and very scanty Byzantine remains. Some twelve or more relatively continuous and homogeneous strata and phases of occupation have been distinguished, extending from about 2000 B.C. to the year A.D. 69. There were also some miscellaneous Byzantine foundations and subterranean constructions. About 700 sq. m. have been excavated, nearly all to bedrock. In the south-west was cleared a large stretch of the inside face of the Bronze Age city wall, just north of our soundings of 1927. The masonry of this Middle Bronze wall is very closely related to the masonry of the city wall of the same age found in 1931 at Beth-zur, and is perhaps the finest example of late Middle Bronze masonry yet excavated in Palestine. Near the city wall in debris of the Bronze and Early Iron ages, was found a unique seal cylinder, representing the Canaanite deities Baal and Ashtaroth, with the name of the latter spelled in Egyptian hieroglyphics—a fine example of the glyptic art of the XIXth Dynasty, about 1300 B.C.

Among the most interesting results of the first campaign in the area of the town proper may be mentioned the following. The first urban installation on the site dates from Middle Bronze I, between 2000 and 1800 B.C., and is identical in its ceramic culture with stratum H at Tell Beit Mirsim, as well as with Watzinger's 'Canaanite' at Jericho. Sporadic sherds of the transition period between Early Bronze and Middle Bronze, such as folded ledge handles, were found in pockets in the rock, but no traces of any continuous or permanent occupation in this period were discovered. With Middle Bronze II better preserved remains begin. In Late Bronze the town reached the highest point of its early history; from this period we have well-built houses with paved floors, masonry resembling Hellenistic work, well-laid stone drains, &c. The pottery of this period is characterized by the usual domestic pottery, painted and unpainted, of well-levigated paste, belonging to both the first and second phases of Late Bronze. The foreign pottery is represented by all the usual types—white-slip ware, base-ring ware, and

Mycenaean. Both the first and the second phases of Late Bronze were brought to an end by a continuous conflagration, which was particularly destructive in the latter case. After the destruction of the Late Bronze town, it was re-occupied by a much poorer population using rough stone masonry and much cruder pottery. This new occupation we may safely ascribe to the Israelites, since its date falls between 1250 and 1150 B.C. Four relatively continuous phases of Iron Age I occupation were distinguished; the first two were destroyed by fire. Since the pottery of the second phase is relatively older than the pottery of the houses of Shiloh, probably destroyed about 1050 B.C., and than the pottery of Saul's fortress at Gibeah, dating from the last quarter of the eleventh century, there seems to be good reason for dating the destruction of the second phase by fire not far from 1100 B.C. In Iron II we have no destruction until the sixth century B.C., but there are several irregular phases of building, belonging mainly to the ninth and the seventh centuries B.C. Somewhere in the sixth century the town was again destroyed by fire, presumably by the Chaldeans. This destruction was followed by a partial re-occupation, employing very coarse masonry, in the Persian period; then came a period of better construction about the fourth century B.C. Following this phase came three successive phases of occupation, each rather sharply differentiated from the others. The first may be dated by pottery and coins, of which sixty were found, to the third and early second centuries B.C. Since its latest coins belonged to Antiochus Epiphanes, it is reasonable to connect its end with the occupation of the town by Bacchides about 160 B.C. The second phase, which is the most continuous of the three, is dated by coins of John Hyrcanus, Alexander Jannaeus, and the immediately following period, to the later Maccabean age. From the Roman occupation onward there is a gap of sixty years in our series of coins. The end of the gap may be connected with the third and final Hellenistic phase, which is dated by coins of the procurators, of Agrippa I, Agrippa II, and of the First Revolt. Our latest coin found *in situ* is dated in the third year of the First Revolt, the very year in which, according to Josephus, Vespasian took Bethel.

Gezer

(Palestine Exploration Fund; directed by Mr. Alan Rowe, assisted by Miss M. Bentwich. Funds supplied by Sir Charles Marston and the late Mr. Herbert Bentwich.)

THE 1934 excavations at Gezer lasted for about a month from the 29th September, and were carried out on the west side of the tell. At this place, where no previous excavation had been made, a strip was laid running down the side of the tell from east to west; the eastern limit of the strip is

marked by an Arab cemetery in which burials are still being made by the local people. The southern side of the strip is about 37 metres from the north side of the modern house on the tell top. It was the intention of the excavators to correlate as far as possible the levels supposedly to be found on the west side of the tell with those found on the other sides by Professor R. A. S. Macalister. To their great surprise, however, at a point not very far below the overlying debris, they came quite unexpectedly upon the rough and very irregular rock surface of the tell. This rock was found to be literally honeycombed with holes consisting of caves, burial places, cisterns and so on. As a matter of fact probably more work was done underground than on the surface. In the surface of the rock were discovered sixteen cup-holes, of a depth ranging between 3 to 26 cm. They are mostly shaped like an inverted bell, and average about 20 cm. in diameter. Near two of them is a shallow trough cut in the rock; another such trough is adjacent to an isolated cup-hole. The exact significance of all the cup-holes is uncertain, but doubtless some were used for making olive oil and still others for pounding grain. They perhaps may be attributed to a period ranging between Neolithic and Chalcolithic times. On the south side of the strip were two very roughly made (or natural?) shallow pits; each had a recess at the base at the west. It is just possible that they were tombs belonging to the Early Bronze Age, but they may well originally have been used earlier than this. At all events one of the recesses would have been just large enough to contain the contracted body of a child and the other an adult burial. In the former recess was part of the rim of an Early Bronze store jar with rope pattern, some sherds of the same period, and also some later intrusive ones. The other recess contained 123 flints of all types and no pottery. In the extreme north-west corner of the strip was a peculiar shallow cave (semi-circular in plan) entered by a short vertical pit. This cave contained 2,353 worked and unworked small flints and perhaps was an Early Bronze storehouse belonging to a flintmaker. Covering a great deal of the eastern part of the strip are the foundations of a small but solidly made building. This peculiar structure is situated almost on the top edge of the tell and seems to have formed part of a *migdol*. It appears that this *migdol* consisted of an outer enclosing wall, a lofty tower with perhaps a staircase inside, a great underground cistern and a silo, the rock-cut base of which still remains. The pottery from the cistern is of about the Late Middle Bronze period, and this affords excellent evidence for the date of the whole complex. From the tower foundations came a few pottery fragments of the Early Bronze Age, many of the Middle Bronze Age, part of a cylindrical cult-object of pottery of about 1200 B.C. (very similar to Beisān examples), a broken Hellenistic lamp of the fourth to third century B.C.,

and part of an iron chain-and-attachment perhaps from the end of a chariot pole or from a tethering chain for some animal. A little distance to the west of the great cistern was still another underground chamber resembling a cistern. This, like its neighbour, is entered in the top by means of a round hole cut in the rock. The small chamber is certainly Early Bronze in date and has nothing to do with the neighbouring cistern; in its north side, and a little way up from the base, is a short passage. The chamber was filled with large stones, fragments of human bones, and Early Bronze potsherds. When the Middle Bronze makers of the great cistern made their underground tank, they accidentally broke into the east side of the smaller chamber, and afterwards plugged up the break with a large stone. They were obviously the people responsible for disturbing the contents of the smaller chamber and for filling it in with large stones in order to strengthen the west wall of their cistern. Whether the small chamber was originally a cistern or a burial place it is impossible to say, but its date is quite certain. Incidentally, no traces of cement lining have been discovered in either chamber. Near the south end of the excavated strip a large cave was discovered, which was entered by a flight of steps. This is of great dimensions and extends almost under the whole of the existing part of the *migdol*. Its entrance was completely filled with debris and rock falls. The cave was originally a natural one, being widened out and deepened in parts by the people who used it as a dwelling. These people doubtless belonged to Chalcolithic times, for four juglets dating from this period came from the cave debris. Just inside the entrance to the left is a circular depression in the floor, evidently a silo; there is a similar depression further inside, which may have been used for a water-jar. Most of the pottery in the cave belonged to the Early Bronze Age; of the more or less complete examples nine date from the earliest part of the period, eleven from the middle part and seventeen from the latest part. This pottery was mostly found mixed up with human and other remains, so it seems that during the last phase of the Early Bronze Age the cave was used as a burial place. An interesting object belonging to this period is a limestone model of a so-called 'Bed of Ashtoreth' which shows the matting of the bed. Another object consisted of a nice flint knife, a bronze dagger 35 cm. long, with four studs on either side for the handle (perhaps Middle Bronze in date) and two fragments of Late Bronze pottery, these evidently belonging to a burial crushed by rock falls placed just inside the entrance. A few fragments of Middle Bronze pottery also came from the cave. Scattered about on the surface of the tell were some interesting objects, such as two Rhodian jar-handles, a jar-handle with a Hellenistic seal, a head of Ashtoreth (evidently Late Bronze), a lamp of the third to fourth century A.D., and

another one of about the thirteenth century A.D. or earlier. Summing up, it may be said that the excavations have clearly shown that the west side of the tell was used as a cemetery in Early Bronze times, which means, of course, that the contemporary settlement itself was on some other part of the site where such tombs did not exist. The people of the later times were perhaps unaware as a whole of the existence of the early cemetery for they placed their city structures right over it.

Isbeïta

(Colt Expedition, British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem; directed by H. Dunscombe Colt.)

THE Byzantine town of Isbeïta lies four miles off the main el 'Auja-Ber-sheba road and some thirty-five miles south-west of the latter place. It is situated on a slight rise overlooking the Wādi Migreh on its eastern side. Like the other towns of its period in the Negeb it is constructed entirely of the local limestone, and is similar to the majority in its lack of orderly planning. Few streets are straight and most wander at will among houses. There is no town wall proper, but a continuous circuit consisting of house and garden walls encompasses the town. This is pierced at intervals by arched gateways. The size of the ruins is some 460 by 350 m.

This first season's digging began in early December and continued until mid-April. Work was concentrated on the north-east corner of the town, on the clearance of a large church and an extensive building adjoining it, probably a monastery.

The church complex as a whole consists of a church with a narthex, a small chapel, a baptistery with an ante-room, and an atrium with chambers on two sides. At some period a heavy talus was built around the whole converting it into a defensive position. The church, the interior measurements of which are 22.10 m. by 12.70, is of the tri-apsidal type with small rooms behind the side apses. The aisles were separated by rows of six columns and the whole floor was once covered with slabs of white marble, likewise the walls to a height of two metres. The rest of the complex was floored with limestone blocks except the apse and eastern part of the chapel which contained a much damaged geometric mosaic, unfortunately lacking its date. No clues as to the date of the original building nor of the many subsequent additions and reconstructions were found, but that the church at least was still in use in the second quarter of the seventh century is indicated by the finding of several burial stones of that period.

South of the church is a large open plaza. Fronting this for some 65 m. on the east and adjoining the church complex is a large series of rooms and

EXCAVATIONS IN PALESTINE, 1933-4

courtyards of the monastery. To date, thirty-six of these have been cleared out and planned but possibly half that number still remains to be done.

The pottery found was practically all of the Byzantine period, finely baked ribbed ware being particularly prevalent, but some sherds of the later Roman times also came to light. That there was a reoccupation in later times is proved by the finding of a considerable amount of finely moulded Arabic ware of the thirteenth to fourteenth centuries.

Jabal Qafze

(Institut de Paléontologie humaine, Paris; directed by M. R. Neuville, assisted by M. M. Stekelis.)

THE excavations begun in 1933 were continued in August and September 1934. The points selected for excavation were the first room of the cave, where all the strata were excavated; and the terrace, where a sounding was made down to the rock.

The stratification suggested last year was confirmed and completed as follows:

- A. Ruins of medieval date (eighth to thirteenth century A.D.).
- B. Bronze I-II-III.
- C. Upper Palaeolithic. *Man.*
- D. " " Second phase. *Ursus arctus.*
- E. " " First phase.
- F. Typical Mousterian.
- G. Levalloisian.
- H. "
- I. "
- J. " *Rhinoceros Merckii.*
- K. " (Primitive stage).
- L. " *Man.*

Four human skeletons were found in the lowest level *in situ*. A preliminary examination of the skulls showed that they do not belong to the Neanderthal type, although to judge by the sequence of levels they seem to be older than the *Homo galileensis* of Zuttiye or the *Palaeanthropus palestinus* of Magharat es Sukhul.

Megiddo

(Oriental Institute, University of Chicago; directed by P. L. O. Guy.)

THE complete report of all the tombs excavated on the lower east slope of the tell is now in the hands of the publishers and will soon be available in the form of an Oriental Institute Publication. These tombs represent various periods dating from c. 2000 to c. 1100 B.C. An Oriental Institute Publication by May on the figurines and other cult material from Megiddo is now in the press and

will appear shortly. A report on the early habitations in and around the tomb area by Engberg and Shipton has now been published under the title *Notes on the Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age pottery of Megiddo*.¹

Further excavations in the south central part of the mound has shown that while the eastern enclosure was undoubtedly used during the Solomonic period, it was actually built at a time slightly earlier than the Western Solomonic stable enclosure with which it was at first thought to be contemporary, and indications point to a Davidic assignation. When the Solomonic city wall was removed from the southern part of the eastern enclosure, it was found to have partially covered the remains of a very large building which was parallel to, and certainly contemporary with, the enclosure walls. Except in one place, where part of the older structure had been incorporated in the Solomonic city wall, only the foundation course of this Davidic(?) building remained. This, however, was built of very large and well cut stones nicely bonded into a wall about a metre and a half thick. The building was roughly square, 23 metres on a side and had a sort of terrace about 6 by 10 metres projecting on its eastern side. Indicated by the incised setting-out marks on the corner stones in the foundation, the superstructure was inset about 20 cm. Numerous mason's marks similar to those found on Schumacher's 'Palace' were noted on certain of the large foundation stones. The entire enclosure outside the building had been floored with a thick lime plaster which extended with a slight ramp downwards through the large gateway in the northern wall of the compound (this gateway in Schumacher's 'Palace').

In the early part of last season, excavation was further restricted to the area within the eastern enclosure. Here, below the Davidic(?) structures, were found the scrappy remains of private houses. This stratum produced very little of interest or importance; culturally it is to be associated with the stratum above, and bears practically no relation to the one immediately below. All the upper strata on the mound, down to and including this one, are now being prepared for publication.

When these scrappy remains were removed there was revealed a city built almost entirely of mud-brick which, from the pottery and other evidence, is tentatively dated to the twelfth century. There were strong indications that the city had met with sudden destruction—possibly caused by earthquake—followed by a fierce conflagration. That the place had been evacuated hurriedly was evidenced by the disposition of the great number of complete pots and other objects including a fine cache of bronzes which has now been disentangled and cleaned by the Department of Antiquities. Numerous skeletons

¹ Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization, No. 10. University of Chicago Press, Chicago.

were unearthed, many of them of people obviously killed by falling roofs or walls and their bodies never recovered, while others have been roughly interred among the ruins of the town. A large number of objects of Egyptian origin were discovered in this stratum among which were many Rameses III scarabs.

Towards the close of the season one object of particular interest, a small bronze statue base with a hieroglyphic inscription running around the four sides, was found in the stratum immediately below the mud-brick city. Unfortunately it was oxidized to such an extent that it could not be fully deciphered; however, it is now being cleaned in the Institute laboratories and it is hoped that the inscription will be of value in dating the current stratum.

et Tell

(Expedition of Baron Edmond de Rothschild; directed by Mme J. Krause-Marquet and Mr. S. Yeivin, assisted by Miss B. Bentwich, Mr. Z. Rosenberg, and Mr. P. Delugaz.)

THE expedition has excavated during the autumn of 1933 the mound of *et Tell*, generally believed to be the site of ancient 'Ai, near the modern village of Deir Diwān. The excavations were carried out in three different places; near the north-west corner of the outer enclosure wall, on the summit of the mound, and in the necropolis outside the city proper.

1. The outer city wall is built of large unhewn blocks of stone and is founded on bed-rock.

2. On the summit of the mound were uncovered the remains of a large structure probably built during the EB period, the outer walls of which are about 2.10 m. thick. The type of construction, flat slabs of unhewn local limestone laid in interlaced courses, is reminiscent of mud brick buildings.

The length of the building from north to south is 25 m. At the southern end where the structure is narrowest, its width is 15 m. About 2 m. northward from the south-eastern corner of the building the outer wall turns eastward, thus extending considerably the enclosed area. In this extension of the southern wall is the main entrance to the place.

All along the western wall of the building stretches a parallel wall. At its northern and southern ends this parallel wall abuts on remains of semi-circular enclosures. Inside this long western corridor are placed equidistantly along the walls stone slabs in opposite pairs which probably served as pedestals for wooden columns supporting the roof.

The western part of the main building was divided into: the southern half apparently an open courtyard; the northern half undoubtedly roofed.

There is some evidence that this building housed a small sanctuary. In the

northern half was found, fixed in the bed-rock, a stone pedestal, the central portion of which was well cut and polished. Fragments of a similar pedestal were discovered in the southern half. Along the walls of the northern room were found remains of eight large storage *pithoi*, two marble mace heads of piriform outline, a complete battle-axe of nephrite (?), and fragments of a similar battle-axe of diorite (?).

Everywhere in this building was found on bed-rock a thick burned layer reaching in thickness in the corridor 1.20 m., but in the southern room the traces are shallower and scattered only in a few places. The majority of potsherds found in the burned layer belong to the EB period, others to the MB I period.

At a much later period several cross walls were added which overlie the above-mentioned burned layer. In this top layer were found mainly potsherds of the EI I period.

East of the building the expedition has unearthed remains of some twenty-six small rooms of two successive periods of construction. The debris inside the room shows no trace of stratification.

3. Eastwards outside of the city wall was discovered the necropolis. Three caves were cleared. The first, which was open, produced sherds of various periods. The other two caves yielded some 200 complete pots of various types. The majority of these are hand-made, many are painted with geometrical designs in purple. These pots like the sherds found in the burned layer belong to the transition period between the late EB and MB I periods. Beside that there were found two new types of pottery, flints, bronze hair-pins (?), skeletons of adults and children.

Tell el 'Ajjūl

(British School of Archaeology in Egypt; directed by Sir Flinders Petrie.)

SIR FLINDERS PETRIE has sent us the following:

The continuance of the clearance at Tell el 'Ajjūl, about five acres, has opened a further view of the wide intercourse of the world in the Hyksos age. The hoards of pedlars in old material seem to have been gathered from all the length of Syria. One of the large gold plaques of the Great Mother is identical with one from Ras Shamra. Other evidences are in the many samples of fine granular gold work, the best of them on the Persian weight; the copies are on the North Syrian and the bad attempts on the Egyptian weight. Further afield there are many gold torque ear-rings of regular Irish fabric, notable for their brilliant surface, implying very pure gold. On the other hand, there is another large dagger of Luristan type, and one with closely ribbed band of the Caucasus type. A great number of toggle pins, many of gold, have

both the ribbed and the twisted types of the Caucasus. Thus most of what is notable here has nothing to do with Palestine, but would be as much in place in a museum at Antioch or Erzerum. The greatest need now is the coupling of other places all up Syria, before we can understand Palestine politics. The lack of reporting in detail from other centres keeps us in the dark.

A similar set of problems appears in the painted pottery. That—like the gold work—is plainly not Palestinian, but comes from several unknown sources. One deposit of foreign pottery, in a stone-lined pit of a tomb, contained a complete jar, and large parts of three others, with animal painting of a spirited character. With these was a piece of orange-coloured late 'Anatolian' bowl, and a piece of Early Cypriote imitation; so the historical position is known within a generation. As the palm occurs in the painting the source cannot be north of Cilicia or Seleucia, and the large fish imply a coast land. Again, work in the north is essential for the valuation of Palestine history.

Tell ed Duweir

(Wellcome Archaeological Research Expedition to the Near East; directed by J. L. Starkey.)

A SECOND season at Tell ed Duweir has enlarged the historical horizon to be dealt with on this site; from the stratified sherds examined from a 30-foot section cut last year, it was evident that early Bronze Age¹ civilization was well represented. Work on the upper terrace of a ridge, across the western valley from the tell, revealed natural pockets and caverns in the soft limestone filled with domestic rubbish of the early Bronze Age, and the caves had been artificially enlarged for use as dwellings in that period. Later they had been re-used as burial places; the pottery, therefore, had been much disturbed and covered a long range of time. The early forms were mostly hand-made, though a tournette was used for finishing; about 20 per cent. show a haematite slip, hand burnished. Beads of advanced technique, and a small bronze knife, as well as rough castings of bronze weapons, bear witness to the free use of this metal, in a period contemporary with the proto- and early dynastic ages in Egypt.

In a large necropolis of the latest phase of the early Bronze Age culture, 120 graves have been recorded. A small oval chamber, approached by a vertical shaft, usually contained a single contracted burial. The funerary equipment comprised a water-jar of flat-based ovoid form, a small squat jar with two handles, a flat bowl, a four-lipped bowl, used as a lamp, and small weighted javelins and darts, as well as the more regular dagger.

¹ The term 'Bronze Age' is used in the generally accepted sense of Palestinian sequence, without reference to metallurgical analysis, which we now await.

The outer defence wall of the Jewish period has now been traced all round the tell, and the construction of its three sections has been noted. The lowest courses were built at a batter, of large stones laid dry, with small ones wedging them in position. The middle courses were of small stones, built almost vertically, while the uppermost courses were of unbaked mud brick, laid in mud mortar.

The two latter were originally coated with a fine face of white plaster, but this has been much damaged by fire; in fact the walls were finally brought down during an attack about 588 B.C. when the city was destroyed.

Contrary to expectations no further tombs of the Iron Age were found on the lower slopes below the north-west corner of the mound. Here the excavations proceeded southwards, exposing the edge of the counter-scarp of the Hyksos fosse, to a point where a drainage trench turned westward into the valley below. High on the slopes, and below the limestone packing of the white plastered revetment, which rises from the fosse, were a few tombs, which provide new evidence for dating the so-called Hyksos defences. A tunnel cut through the packing of the revetment, appears to be an attempt to penetrate the fortifications, and may be due to the early campaigns of the Egyptian forces in the XVIIIth Dynasty.

Single burials of the early Jewish kingdom were cut in the filling of the Hyksos fosse, but these had not disturbed the thick walls of a rectangular building, which proved to be a small temple of the XVIIIth-XIXth Dynasties. A small anteroom led to the main apartment, where three rows of low benches skirted the walls, with offering bowls still in place. More bowls were stacked in three niches in the east wall.

The altar and the shrine behind it were approached by three steps and in the corner of the shrine, ivory and glass toilet objects were found. To the left of the altar was a pottery bin for meat offerings, and to the right a stand and bowl for libations. Two smaller apartments beyond the low flanking walls of the shrine were for the priests' use.

The rubbish pits, outside the temple, produced cylinder seals, beads, and carved ivories, as well as the fragments of a ewer, bearing Sinaitic-Canaanite script above figures of animals painted in red.

Tell el Fūl

(American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem; directed by Dr. W. F. Albright.)

AFTER an intermission of eleven years the excavation of Tell el-Fūl was resumed in September 1933, under the auspices of the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem. Dr. W. F. Albright directed the expedition,

with the assistance of Mr. P. B. Upchurch and Mr. William Gad. Work continued for some four weeks and was devoted partly to the complete clearance of the western part of the ancient fortress in the centre of the hill, and partly to the clearance of a Hellenistic village area on the eastern edge of the ancient site. The earthquake of 1927, which had caused the collapse of various exposed walls in the fortress, made it possible to clear more extensively without destroying ancient remains unnecessarily.

The identification of Tell el Fūl with Gibeah of Saul and with Gibeah of Benjamin is absolutely certain, and is accepted by all competent scholars. Since these places are frequently referred to in the Bible, as well as by Josephus, a close correlation between the archaeological results and the documentary materials was to be expected, and was, in fact, established by the first campaign in 1922. The most important discovery of this season was that of the fortress walls of Saul's time, i.e. from the end of the eleventh century, were actually only the south-west corner tower of a much larger citadel, together with the immediately contiguous walls of the citadel. The construction is typically Iron Age in character, with casemate walls and outside corner towers. The pottery was found to be the same as had been determined already in our first campaign, and its date about 1000 B.C. is quite certain, as a result of the work on ceramic chronology which has been done since the first campaign at this site. The Hellenistic village was occupied mainly during the third and second centuries B.C., as shown both by pottery and by three bronze coins of Ptolemy Philadelphus. Among objects found during the excavations were twelve stamped jar-handles of the late Jewish monarchy.

A preliminary report of this campaign has been published in *BASOR*, No. 52, pp. 6-12.

Tell el Jerīshe

(Hebrew University, Jerusalem; directed by Dr. E. L. Sukenik.)

THE tell is situated 5 km. north of Jaffa near the small village of Jerīshe on the Yarkon river, and is popularly known as 'Napoleon's Hill'. Its highest point rises 33 m. over sea-level; its surface is 40 dunums, divided into two hillocks of different size. The higher and bigger hillock is on the south; the northern rises to 20-24 m. only. Between the two there is a narrow valley running from east to west.

A trial sounding was undertaken on the site in the northern part of the tell by the excavators in 1927. It revealed the existence of Middle and Late Bronze buildings; on the western slope a small quantity of Early Bronze pottery was found. No remains later than the Late Bronze Age were discovered

EXCAVATIONS IN PALESTINE, 1933-4

in this part of the tell. On the other hand, a sounding made in the southern part led to the discovery of later settlements down to the Early Iron period.

The aim of the 1934 excavations was to make certain what historical periods were represented on the site. The work was concentrated on the south-western part of the tell. At a depth of half a metre below the surface-wall foundations were found, most of which had been destroyed by surface ploughing. Comparing the pottery found at this level with the pottery found at Samaria it seems clear that the latest settlement ceased to exist towards the end of the tenth century B.C. The remains of a second level began to appear at a depth of about 80-100 cm. This second settlement also belongs to the Early Iron Age. There are traces of destruction dividing the two levels. The walls of the second settlement were sunk in heaps of burnt bricks. The brick walls at this level were found in a state of complete decomposition; only occasionally were complete or even fragmentary bricks found. Below the brick debris a thick stratum of ashes was found, traces of which could be seen all over this level of the excavations. The third settlement on the site was therefore destroyed by a violent conflagration. Some time seems to have passed between the destruction of the third settlement and the building of the second, as during the interval the brick walls were entirely broken up and washed away by the rain, the bricks being left scattered all over the site. In the restricted area excavated in this level no complete remains of walls could be traced.

Below the conflagration level so-called 'Philistine' potsherds began to be found. They appeared together with Cypriote pottery and other sherds of Late Bronze Age. As the excavation was made at the end of the tell, it is possible that this place served as a dump for the pottery fragments of various periods. Accordingly, it seems preferable to wait for a continuation of the excavations before drawing any conclusions from the appearance of the 'Philistine' sherds together with Late Bronze pottery.

Apart from the pottery, the small finds included a 'heart scarab' of green stone, containing passages from the 30th chapter of the Book of the Dead (c. the XIXth Dynasty); together with scarabs of various periods, a Babylonian cylinder seal of Late Bronze Age, several iron objects, a considerable quantity of bronze objects, faience amulets and many flints.

Wādī Maghāra

(Joint Expedition of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem and the American School of Prehistoric Research; directed by Miss D. A. E. Garrod.)

THIS was the final season on this site; work was begun on the 2nd April and closed down on the 25th August. Digging has been carried on in the Ṭābūn

Cave only, the object in view being to clear a wide area in front of the cave in order to explore more fully the deep layers reached in a sounding last year.

In enlarging the trench and sounding dug last year, we passed again through Layers D (Lower Mousterian), *Ea-Ed* (Acheuleo-Mousterian), F (Upper Acheulean), and G (Tayacian). No layer was found below G, which rested directly on the bedrock.

A very large number of flint implements was found, especially in Layer E, and good representative fauna was also found throughout this layer. This includes rhinoceros, hippopotamus, and two tusks of elephant, one from the base of *Ec*, the other from the upper part of *Ed*. The only other site from which Pleistocene elephant is known in Palestine is the well at Bethlehem investigated by Miss D. M. Bate in April of this year. The value of the Ṭābūn elephant lies in the fact that it can be dated to the middle of the Riss-Wurm interglacial, but the fact that no molars were found will make it difficult to determine the species.

A human molar was found in Layer *Eb*, close to the north-east wall of the cave, but no other human fragments were present in the lower layers.

The excavation of the Ṭābūn is now complete for purposes of publication, but it is clear that there is a large swallow-hole in the middle of the cave, the centre of which lies under the deposits left in place on the south-west side. The archaeological layers from *Ed* downwards have subsided into this hole as the result of subterranean drainage, and the task of clearing it out would involve several seasons of work and heavy expense. From my observations in the part already excavated I think it unlikely that this would give any very valuable results, or that any layers older than G are present.

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